

Associational Missions Day Of Pray

The Baptist Association, Why?

By Foy Rogers, Director

Cooperative Missions Department, MBCB
Baptists adopted the association as God's instrument to help us do the work he assigned us to do.

Although the association can be traced in principle all the way back to the ministry, life and teachings of Jesus it had its organizational beginnings in the early 1800s.

Oliver Cromwell, Christian general, set up associations as a part of his strategy to gain religious liberty in England. It was no mere accident that he approved Baptist lay preachers as chaplains. They established many Baptist churches in England, Scotland, Ireland and Wales. In fact, the number increased from 54 to 297 during the period 1644-1680. Although Cromwell set up what he called associations for a purpose different from that for which Baptists use them,

he did have a worthy motive in mind, (religious liberty), and God had a plan of action for Baptists.

Following the political unrest came numerous spiritual, social and doctrinal conflicts; and the Baptists were experienced in the use of the associations. Thus, it was easy for them to use what God had given them to meet their needs.

Sharing of burdens, ideas and testimonies during the difficult 1800's through associations enabled the suffering Baptists to chart a course of action which we have continued to follow.

Unworthy ministers were exposed and prospective churches were informed when principles and doctrines were neglected or character questionable.

Some of the contributions growing out of associations included: Statements of faith and (Continued on page 2)

NASHVILLE, TN 37203
127 5TH AVE N
SD BAPT HIS SOCIETY N
005 JTD CO2012 7-22

Associational Missions Is World Missions

By W. Levon Moore, Director of Missions
Attala Association

Most Southern Baptists are committed to the philosophy that missions is at the heart of our task. The term "world missions" is frequently used in denominational terminology. It is commendable for Baptists to have a world outlook. However, we must guard against two dangers: One, emphasis on the bigness of our world missions outreach must not overshadow appreciation for the smaller segments of our world mission program.

Two, we must not so romanticize distance that we allow ourselves to believe that the farther we go from home to give our testimony for Christ, the more missionary we are. Our involvement in "world missions" must not allow the glamor of foreign mission work to take the edge of concern from those missions efforts

nearer where we live.

The philosophy of associational missions is deeply rooted in the New Testament. One has only to remember the close-knit relationship of the churches in the Book of Acts to be aware of the biblical seed-bed of associationalism.

It is the very nature of the church to expand its ministry beyond local bounds. As the church seriously undertakes to fulfill its mission, an awareness is quickly realized that one church alone cannot do all that should be done. As soon as two or more independent, self-governing churches begin to work together in doing what one church cannot do alone, an association is in the making. The association is the tie which binds a group of churches together in a ministry of fellowship and witness.

To understand the purpose of the association (Continued on page 2)



The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Published Since 1877

JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI, THURSDAY, JULY 29, 1976

Volume C, Number 24



AUG 2
1976

William G. Tanner To Head SBC's Home Mission Board

By Dan Martin

ATLANTA (BP) — William G. Tanner was elected executive director-treasurer of the Southern Baptist Convention's Home Mission Board (HMB) here.

Tanner, president of Oklahoma Baptist University (OBU), Shawnee, is the 14th person to be elected chief executive since the board was formed in 1845.

Tanner, 46, is the youngest man

to head the denominational agency in the past three quarters of a century. He also is the third college president to lead the board since it was founded in 1845.

He succeeds Arthur B. Rutledge, who retires Dec. 31, after serving 11 years as HMB executive director-treasurer.

Tanner, elected during the July meeting of the 69-member board, is expected to move to Atlanta in October.

In presenting the nomination to the board, Gene Garrison, pastor of First Baptist Church, Oklahoma City, and chairman of the board's 6-member search committee, traced its work and procedures.

"When we began, we were aware that the person we would nominate would fill the most strategic position in the entire convention. Winning America for Christ is not an option, it is a must," Garrison said.

He added that 43 persons were suggested to the committee. Each was considered, he said.

"Never did we eliminate anyone. There was never a negative direction, praying that one

positive direction, praying that one name would surface. We feel this has happened."

He added the committee was never divided, but there always was a unity, and the nomination was unanimous.

"We have a deep feeling this morning that we are not presenting our candidate but that we are presenting the man God has chosen as executive director-treasurer of the Home Mission Board," Garrison said.

With his election, Tanner is the second OBU president to lead a major denominational agency. His predecessor at Shawnee, Grady C. Cothen, left OBU to head New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary and now is president of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville.

In his remarks to the board following the election, Tanner said he comes "without any reservations. I am not in the fleece business. I am in the faith business."

Tanner also emphasized winning America to Christ through Southern Baptists' Bold Mission Thrust emphases of "evangelize and congregationalize."



William G. Tanner has been elected executive director-treasurer of the SBC Home Mission Board. Currently, he is president of Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee, Okla. He is a former pastor of First, Gulfport. (HMB Photo by Knoan Benfield)

"We are facing a radically new situation... (calling) for new facts, and the Home Mission Board," he said, "must operate (Continued on page 2)

Student Directors Ask For Aid And Cooperation

CLINTON, Miss. (BP) — Directors of Baptist student ministries attending their national workshop here called for continued aid and cooperation from Southern Baptist Convention agencies, commissions and seminaries.

Organized into Task Forces to study needs Baptist Student Union (BSU) directors face in dealing with SBC organizations, the directors said communication is the major problem. All the task forces encouraged more communication between BSU directors and the Foreign and Home Mission Boards, Sunday School Board, Woman's Missionary Union (WMU), organization for women and girls) and Brotherhood (organization for men and boys).

The task force assigned to study the Foreign Mission Board called for renewed interest in areas, in addition to evangelism, such as political developments in host countries, conflicts and struggles.

The group asked for the appointment of summer missionaries to work specifically with children of

missionaries and other American youth overseas.

"Perhaps a regular youth ministry could be operated for these 'forgotten' persons during the summer months," said a task force spokesman. "We believe students are willing to respond quickly to ever changing world concerns and feel the Foreign Mission Board must equip itself to move rapidly and with flexibility."

"Probably the greatest chal-

Baptists In Politics: Influence Not Dominate

GLORIETA, N. M. (BP) — "Southern Baptists must try to influence, not dominate the political process during the coming national election."

"Christianization of government should not be the goal of

Christian citizens. Bearing a faithful witness of Jesus Christ and bringing his word to bear upon government decisions is the goal."

These views were urged by C. Welton Gaddy, director of Christian citizenship development for the Christian Life Commission of the Christian Life Commission of during the opening session of a conference on "Moral Issues in the '76 Elections," sponsored by the commission.

Gaddy cautioned Southern Baptists that they could abuse and be abused by the political process.

"The most serious threat comes from persons who would use the tenets of a certain political philosophy and thus prostitute Christian morality for political goals."

"On the surface," explained Gaddy, "the ideals, the language and methods of such persons appear in order; however, a close

Missionaries To Lebanon Intend To Remain

The last report from the missionaries remaining in Lebanon indicated they would not leave with the last American evacuation scheduled for this week.

A Foreign Mission Board spokesman told the Baptist Record this week that Rev. and Mrs. James K. Ragland and Miss Mabel Summers, all stationed in Beirut had said last week that they did not intend to leave. The Raglands are from Oklahoma, and Miss Summers is from Kentucky. There has been no contact with them since hearing from them last week through J. D. Hughey, area secretary for Europe and the Middle East.

(Continued on page 2)



100 Years On Coast

First Baptist Church, Pascagoula, will observe its 100th anniversary on Aug. 8. Special services and dinner on the grounds are planned. Rev. Clark McMurray is pastor. (Story on Page 5)

Ford Nominates Stevens For Public Broadcast Slot

FORT WORTH (BP) — President Gerald Ford has nominated Paul M. Stevens, president of the Southern Baptist Radio and Television Commission here, as a director of the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

Stevens, a Democrat, was told of his nomination in a telephone call from the office of Richard Brannon, a Baptist, who is associate director of the president personnel office.

The nomination, expected to be announced since the middle of

June, still must be confirmed by the Senate, Brannon said.

"It's a matter of getting the confirmation on the Senate calendar," he said. "Dr. Stevens will have to appear before a sub-committee. We don't expect any problems with it. I have no doubt he'll be confirmed."

Stevens, an ordained Baptist minister has led the Radio and Television Commission since 1963. The Baptist agency is one of the world's largest producers of religious

(Continued on page 2)

Two Are Former Mississippians

Seminary Adds 3 Faculty

New Orleans—Dr. Jerry Breazeale, Dr. Fred Moseley, and Leroy Yarbrough were elected to the faculty of the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary in special action of the Board of

Trustees. Dr. Breazeale and Dr. Moseley formerly were pastors in Mississippi.

The three new faculty members come to the seminary with a long record of service to Southern

Baptists. Dr. Jerry Breazeale, former pastor of the First Church of Bogalusa, Louisiana, will be the first faculty member in the newly reorganized School of Christian Training. The School will provide certification for ministers who have not completed college level degree programs.

Dr. Fred Moseley, Assistant Executive Director-Treasurer of the Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Georgia, has been named as visiting professor and acting director of the School of Christian Training. Both Breazeale and Moseley are Th.D. graduates of the New Orleans Seminary.

Leroy Yarbrough, Executive Editor of *Christianity Today*, Fort Worth, Texas, will become assistant professor of Choral Conducting effective August 1. Yarbrough is known throughout the Convention for composing, arranging, conducting, and producing various musical compositions.

In other business, a long range

A JOYOUS OCCASION—Drs. Breazeale (left), Moseley, and Leavell, (right) look forward to the upcoming School of Christian Training at the New Orleans Baptist Seminary. Dr. Leavell, Seminary President, greets Dr. Moseley (center) who is acting director of the program designed to award certification to ministers who have not completed college. Dr. Breazeale joins the faculty in the field of Old Testament and Theology.



(Continued on page 2)

Associational Missions Day Of Prayer: August 1

The Baptist Association, Why?

(Continued from page 1) practice, gaining of religious liberty not only in America but in many countries of the world. Establishing schools to assure an educated ministry was a priority. Appointing, commissioning and supporting missionaries was another priority. William Carey, the father of our modern missionary movement, had a platform when the association met, and he shared his compassionate concern for foreign missions. He went out from the North Hampshire Baptist Association and spent his life in India as the first Baptist foreign missionary. He also baptized Adoniram and Ann Judson and Luther Rice, and they became the first foreign missionaries from Baptists in America.

Church Extension and the phenomenal growth of Baptists in the USA can be attributed to the vision and commitment to God, exemplified in the early associations in America. The Philadelphia Association, organized in 1707, led the way in sending missionaries, establishing churches and other associations. Brown University was established by the Philadelphia Association to train the ministers; some of whom were pioneer, church-establishing missionaries. Originally, Mississippi College was sponsored by the Mississippi Association before there was a state convention.

As religious education came into prominence in the Southern Baptist Convention, the association was the God-given instrument to set up the organizations in churches; and teach procedures and promote methods for enlistment, teaching, training, evangelizing and giving. All of the above were begun out of a missionary concern for needs among people whom God had assigned to Baptists.

It was the report of an associational missions committee, as they considered the people's need for Bible study, that resulted in Dr. J. M. Price's becoming the first associational missionary in the Southern Baptist Convention. He was called by the Blood River Association in West Kentucky in 1912. His title was Sunday school missionary. The reports of Dr. J. M. Price in 1913 showed that he had traveled 1,500 miles, made 85 addresses, organized 14 Sunday schools, graded 11 Sunday schools, conducted 24 training schools of 1 week each, issued 250 normal diplomas and 88 seals and 20 lecture courses certificates, and had taken 35 subscriptions to religious papers. Southern Baptists took him out of his field position and put him in a classroom, and for many years he taught at Southwestern Seminary in Fort Worth. He told me that baptism more than doubled in that association following his years' work.

Dr. J. N. Barnett used the association to launch the Sunday school enlargement program. This was in Corsicana, Texas. He assisted in organizing enlargement campaigns over the entire convention. He set up meetings in each state convention and invited 11 people from each association to the meetings. This was for the purpose of organizing the associations for Sunday school and Training Union work. The results were gratifying and that this was a great day for Southern Baptists. Dr. Barnett stated that the average Sunday school worker never leaves the association to secure training; therefore, if we

reach the majority of our leaders we must use the association. He said that people must know an individual personally before they will take his suggestions or read his literature.

Dr. T. L. Holcomb used the association to carry everything the Baptist Sunday School Board had to the "fartherest church" and he made the Vacation Bible School Movement a test of its effectiveness. During the 5-year period from 1935 to 1939 reports indicate that the goal for the number of Vacation Bible Schools was 4,000 and it reached 5,756. The enrollment goal was 500,000, and they reached 541,000. There was a goal to conduct 12,000 enlargement campaigns. They conducted 12,500. Other areas of work grew accordingly.

Dr. J. B. Lawrence said, "Southern Baptists will never reach their churches with these programs, no matter what their programs are, until they get back to the local association and make it a strong, functioning body in Baptist affairs."

Dr. S. F. Dowis was brought to the Home Mission Board to give a strong emphasis to associational missions and rural church work. He along with the Executive Secretary, Dr. Courts Redford, graded and used every association in the Southern Baptist Convention to carry out the responsibilities assigned to the Home Mission Board and to promote Kingdom causes in all areas of our work.

In looking over a report of work done in Marshall-Lafayette Counties (Mississippi) during 2 years in the early 1960s, I was happy to see the results, even though these were two of the hardest years' work I ever did. Note what the report revealed: I had an average of 11 professions of faith a month; organized 3 church or associational organizations each 2 months of this period; planned and carried out director-led enlargement campaigns in each association; had World Missions Conferences in each association; organized 1 new church; preached 9 revivals; served as principal in 16 Vacation Bible Schools and was engaged in an average of 3 church activities of a week's duration each of the 2 months involved. These involved either teaching study courses, preaching revivals or leading Vacation Bible Schools.

Let us recognize that we are living today — not in the past. We must see our problems as opportunities and never consider them out of reach if God is our power, love and motivating force and reaching people where they are for our Lord our goal.

Church organizations must be strengthened through enlistment, training and encouragement.

Associational missions committees must be active in locating areas of need, informing the churches and training church missions committees in procedures in setting up ministries, missions and churches.

Stewardship committees must be alert to mission needs and give competent leadership in promoting good stewardship programs, to give a balanced emphasis in all areas of needs.

God gave us the association as an instrument for His service. Let's pray for guidance, evaluate present programs and plan meaningful activities in each association — then depend upon God for results.

Associational Missions Is World Missions

(Continued from page 1)

tion, one must look at the purpose of the local church. The association may be described as churches united in extended ministry. The association is composed of elected messengers from the churches. These messengers organized themselves into an independent and self-governing unit of denominational life. The association adopts its own constitution, elects its own officers, approves its own program and administers its own procedures. The association works hand in hand with the state convention and the Southern Baptist Convention through appropriate agencies.

There is no such thing as a uniform "associational program;" thus, each association must determine its own program based on the needs of its constituent churches.

The officers of the association are moderator, vice-moderator and clerk-treasurer. Most associations have an elected Executive Board or Executive Committee. Practically all associations have an organizational structure which corresponds to that of the local church. Appropriate committees are added as needed. Most associations employ a director of missions and an office secretary. Mississippi has forty-six directors of missions and several of these serve in two or more associations. The director of mis-

sions is an employee of the association, but he ministers to individual churches, promotes programs of work related to the state convention and the Southern Baptist Convention, and seeks to be an ambassador of good will for his denomination and for Christ.

All of this is to indicate that associational missions is not some vague unseen concept but is an organism of live, flesh-and-blood people who perform a variety of ministries on behalf of the churches. Associational missions is more than a program, it is dedicated people working together in specific ministries.

One of the real problems of the association is to determine priorities. Sensitive leaders soon discover that a multitude of needs demand attention. Another problem is to find adequate resources of money and personnel to meet these needs. An increasing awareness of the importance of the ministry of the association should lead churches to increase their support of this phase of denominational service.

A proper perspective requires that we see the county where we live as a part of God's world. Therefore, associational missions is an essential part of world missions; and as such, deserves the prayerful and generous support of all Baptists.

Stevens - -

(Continued from page 1) gious programs for broadcasting. Radio and Television Commission-produced programs are heard on more than 3,710 radio and television stations across America on public service time. They are broadcast in 12 languages.

Stevens says his interest lies in keeping the broadcasting process free of government intervention. At the Texas Association of Broadcasters meeting in Arlington recently, he told a Dallas newscaster that one of his concerns is "keeping government intervention in the broadcasting process at an absolute minimum" and wants the broadcasting process to "remain absolutely constitutional."

Stevens has been an outspoken advocate of the family viewing hour on television and has been quoted as being strongly against violence and sex on television.

Seminary - -

(Continued from page 1) planning committee was established to study long range goals of growth and development for the New Orleans seminary. Appointed thus far to oversee the committee are: Nelson Price, pastor of the Roswell Street Church, Marietta, Georgia, Chairman; Bill Hamm of Shreveport, Louisiana and Dr. Ray Rust of New Orleans will assist Mr. Price.



Baptist Softball Tourney Slated

The Mississippi Soft-Pitch Softball Tournament for men and women is scheduled in Jackson for Aug. 12-14 and Aug. 20-21. The tournament will be a double-elimination affair and all players participating must be members of the sponsoring church. Trophies will be awarded to the top four teams, with windbreaker jackets going to the champion team. Entries close Aug. 9. For more information contact tournament director R. W. Brister, P. O. Box 4686, Jackson, Miss. 38216 (Telephone — day 362-8676; evenings and weekends — 982-3962).

Friendship To Redecorate Sanctuary

Friendship Church, Grenada, has voted to redecorate the present sanctuary and to build additional educational space.

The deacons and Finance Committee brought the recommendation before the church. Those present voted unanimous approval.

Some partitions will be removed that would increase the seating capacity in the sanctuary.

The recommendation also included remodeling the kitchen and building six new classrooms.

Construction will probably begin in a few weeks, according to Brenda Hodges, publicity chairman.

"The Messengers" Invited To Be Choir-In-Residence At Glorieta, FMB Week

The MESSENGERS, a choral group of 50 senior high and college young people, the CHAPEL BELLS, and CHORAL ENSEMBLE of First Baptist Church, Starkville, were invited by the Foreign Mission Board of the SBC to be the "choir in residence" at Glorieta Conference Center, Glorieta, N. M. during Foreign Missions Week, July 24-30, 1976. Enroute they traveled

and sang and rang in churches in seven states.

The Chapel Bells have been recognized as one of the outstanding Handbell groups in the south. In 1975 they attended the National Handbell Festival in St. Augustine, Florida sponsored by the American Guild of English Handbell Ringers. They were one of three bell groups invited to ring at PraiSing '76 in May of this year. The group is considering a tour to Switzerland in 1977.

First Baptist Church, Starkville has the largest music ministry enrollment in the state. The program consists of 10 choral groups, seven handbell groups and an instrumental ensemble.

C. Truitt Roberts, minister of music at the church and director of each of the tour groups, is a graduate of the University of Mississippi and Southwestern Seminary and has done additional study at Memphis State.

William G. Tanner To Head SBC's Home Mission Board

(Continued from page 1)

at the cutting edge of creativity" to reach people for Christ.

In a press conference immediately after his election, Tanner said, "I think there needs to be a creative openness within the ranks of Southern Baptists," referring to a united effort to evangelize the world. "Our commissions, boards and agencies can work together and I would like to see this openness as a primary emphasis," he said.

In a pre-board meeting interview, Tanner likened his new responsibilities to "beginning a new career. I have been in an academic ministry and now I am going into a ministry of missions."

Tanner has been OBU president since July, 1971. During that time, enrollment has grown from 1,600 students to more than 1,800, and the school's budget has gone from \$3.6 million to \$5.2 million.

As HMB executive director-trustee, Tanner will oversee a program which includes a \$26 million budget and support of 2,300 missionaries across the United States, Puerto Rico and American Samoa.

"It sounds corny to say I feel very humble about this, but it is very humbling," Tanner said. "The thing that is scary about it is that it is a tremendous responsibility."

"While he admits he "doesn't know enough about all of the programs" of the HMB, Tanner said his philosophy of home missions is to "reach and to minister to the whole person. I think that is our job. I hope we have a strategy to win America to Christ."

should have a strategy, and we should have a plan of how we are going to do it."

Speaking of Bold Mission Thrust, Tanner said, "I believe in the concept of Bold Mission Thrust to give the opportunity for every person in our country to hear the gospel and to make a decision."

"It is not too bold to say that one of our objectives is to win our nation for Christ. I think that is extremely important and that is what home missions ought to be about."

"There are different ways to accomplish this, but it means to me that when you get down to the bottom line, the program ought to be designed to win people to Christ."

Tanner said he is coming to the board as a "listener, a looker and a learner," and admits he has no "pre-disposed hobby horse" of favorite programs.

"I am sold on what the Home Mission Board is doing. That is not something I conjured up in the last few months, but I have been sold on the Home Mission Board for the last 12-15 years."

"I think the Home Mission Board has done some of the most exciting things for our convention. Literacy, language missions, interfaith witness, minorities, black America, rural work, inter city, metropolitan areas, pioneer areas, evangelism. These are exciting things."

"I think the board has been on the creative and cutting edge of the convention, and I suspect I am going to have to hurry to catch up."

Of Rutledge, Tanner said, "I

have heard him called the finest

Christian many people have ever known. That is a tough pair of shoes to fill. If they had said he was the greatest administrator, but when they say he is the greatest Christian, that is a pretty good bench mark."

"He is going to be difficult to follow. But we are different. We have different approaches. And that is the way it should be."

Tanner has two earned doctorates. In 1966, he received the doctor of education degree from the University of Houston and in 1968 the doctor of philosophy degree from Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Fort Worth.

He also is a graduate of Baylor University in Waco, Tex., and received an honorary doctorate from Baylor in 1975.

Prior to becoming OBU president, Tanner was president of Mary Hardin Baylor College in Belton, Tex. He has been pastor of churches in Gulfport, Miss., Houston, Cleburne and Wheelock, Tex. His wife, Ellen, is a member of the Southern Baptist Convention's Executive Committee. Tanner served two terms as chairman of the Southern Baptist Education Commission. The Tanners have three sons, Bill, Keith and Mark, and a daughter, Kim.

An area meeting of the Bicentennial Senior Adult Choir will be

Tuesday, August 2, at 3 p.m., at West Jackson Street Baptist Church.

This special choir for senior adults is sponsored by the Church Music Department, MBCB, Dan C. Hall, director.

The age limit is now set at 55 and older. Both men and women are invited to participate in this period of singing, fellowship and

COVERED DISH SUPPER at 5:00 p.m.

Three previous area rehearsals of the choir under the direction of Dr. Jack L. Wall, Dean of Music, Mississippi College, have been well attended.

Other rehearsals in the central and southern part of the state will be announced soon.

The singers from these areas will form a statewide Bicentennial Choir and sing at the State Baptist Convention in November.

HMB Names New Director, OK's 5 Other Staff Changes

ATLANTA (BP) — The board of directors for the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board (HMB) besides electing William G. Tanner as its new executive director-treasurer, approved five other staff changes, including a retirement, a resignation, a terminal leave, and two additions.

Tanner, 46, succeeds Arthur B. Rutledge who retires Dec. 31, after 11 years as the board's chief executive.

Directors also appointed 34 persons to career and associate missionary positions and awarded church pastoral aid to 12 others.

William L. Clark will retire as director of the division of chaplaincy, effective Dec. 31, 1976. Prior to his becoming director in 1975 of the division which relates to all Southern Baptist chaplains, Clark served as its associate director from 1970-75.

From 1951-70, he was a chaplain in the U. S. Air Force. Earlier, he served as pastor of Baptist churches in Ellisville, Crosby, Brookhaven, and McLaurin, Miss.

Clark was graduated from Mississippi College in Clinton and New Orleans Seminary and was awarded the honorary doctor of divinity degree from Mississippi College in 1968.

A native of Harperville, Miss., Clark will move to Petal, Miss., to raise horses and supply in pulpits. His wife is the former

Margaret Rogers of Petal. They have three children.

John Allen will leave his position as assistant director of the department of church extension to become director of the missions division of the Alaska Baptist Convention, beginning Aug. 1.

Fred B. Moseley, for more than 10 years the HMB's assistant executive director-treasurer, will take a teaching leave beginning fall semester 1976 at the newly-created School of Christian Training at New Orleans seminary.

On Jan. 1, 1977, he will begin officially as director of the new school which will offer a program of certification of pastors without a college degree. He and his wife, Gay, have three children.

New HMB staffers include William Howard Slagle and Jerry B. Graham. Slagle will be assistant director in the department of church extension. Graham will be associate director of Association Administration Service.

Named to a long-range study committee were Nelson Price of Marietta, Ga.; chairman; Bill Hamm of Shreveport, La.; and Ray P. Rust, executive vice president of New Orleans Seminary, who will assist Price.

In addition to Moseley's being named to head the seminary's School of Christian Training, Jerry Breazeale, pastor of First Baptist Church in Bogalusa, La., was named the SCT's first regular faculty member.

Baptists In Politics: Influence Not Dominate

(Continued from page 1) look uncovers a disturbing phenomena.

"Activities in the last 20 months point to a major initiative by the evangelical far right in this country," reported Gaddy. "New organizations have been created with a clear political purpose. While the various groups and persons involved vigorously claim no organizational ties, it is clear that the origin and direction of what has been a national effort is centered in a group who have close relationships to one another, who share a doctrinaire conservative ideological vision and who have come to cooperate together around common political objectives."

Many Southern Baptist evangelicals have become worried about the hidden political agenda that seems to lie beneath the religious sounding talk of 'turning America back to God' and the election of 'real Christians' to political office. There have been reports of plans to raise large sums of money for these ends, including funds for overt political purposes."

Gaddy named the Christian Freedom Foundation and the Third Century Publishers as two such organizations which are "illustrative of this activity."

"The approach of this entire movement rests upon false assumptions," charged Gaddy. "These

people have the idea that there can be a 'Christian America' or a Christian political party. Such concepts are both theologically untenable and practically unrealistic."

Gaddy further charged that another myth perpetrated by these extremist movements is, "Christians will automatically adopt a political conservative philosophy and be like-minded in their positions on political issues. One has only to observe two different Christian legislators debating an issue to know that is not true," explained Gaddy. "Christians can and do work in politics from both conservative and liberal perspectives and from within both the Democratic and Republican parties. This is the way it should be."

Gaddy said Christian citizens should take great care lest their interest and activities be subverted "by persons seeking to use the impetus of Christian citizenship to further their own political philosophy or to obtain their goals as a candidate for political office."

"A great deal of time and money has already been solicited (by such persons) from Southern Baptists to support their new far right wing initiative. We must carefully examine all our involvements and tirelessly nurture a citizenship that is 'worthy of the gospel of Christ.'

Student Directors

Ask For Cooperation

(Continued from page 1) sionary education other than summer missions, special mission projects, seminary mission conferences and scattered missions emphases, the task force called for more use of WMU and Brotherhood as a part of campus organization. The group also encouraged BSU directors to use available materials from the two agencies already in print such as "Contempo," "Brotherhood Journal," "Skills for Mission Action Series," "Graded Series Study" and "Group Action Guides."

"Because of a growing need for missionary awareness, WMU and Brotherhood would provide excellent tools, methods, organization and guide lines for training and developing student leaders," added Gulledge.

Concerning the Sunday School Board, general concern was expressed that some way be found to have consultants in the different areas of the board available to help on the college campus, even though they are not specifically assigned that task.

According to a task force on Southern Baptist Convention commissions, these organizations are generally not well known by campus ministers and students. Exceptions were the SBC's Christian Life Commission and its work

with hunger and the Historical Commission and its work with the Bicentennial.

The task force called for interaction along two lines, education and specific projects. The campus ministers affirmed, "We should take advantage of these opportunities for interchange in order that we can help the commissions, local churches and our own ministry," according to a paper prepared by the task force.

The task force on seminaries called for the six Southern Baptist seminaries to promote cooperation, not competitiveness, among themselves by developing joint recruitment projects. It also asked the seminaries to recognize the major role state universities play in producing seminary students and recognize the pastoral as well as educational functions of student ministries.

Also, the need for development of a master of divinity curriculum for student ministers and a director of ministries program for student ministries was expressed.

The task force reporting on the Home Mission Board (HMB) expressed a feeling of cooperation between directors of student ministries and the HMB. The HMB identifies missions needs and provides resources; BSU assists in promotion, recruitment and training of students.

\$24.6 Million Budget OK'd By HMB

(Continued from page 1) cooperatively budgeted with the states," Rutledge told directors. The new funds will make available new work in each area of the nation, he said.

The \$400,000 in the west will make possible 13 new missionary positions plus assistance to churches and evangelism programs," Rutledge noted.

He said funds for north central and plains areas will provide for three new associational directors of missions, one Christian social ministries worker, and an evangelism intern. It also will provide funds for pastoral assistance to churches and other evangelism programs.

Four additional associational directors of missions, a language missionary, two CSM missionaries, pastoral aid, and evangelism programming are added for the

northeast.

Funds for the southeastern areas will provide a consultant in transitional communities, a CSM worker, two National (Black) Baptist workers, and three language missionaries. Church assistance and evangelism programming aid also are provided.

The major part of the new money in the Southwestern area will be used for salary increases but will provide for one chaplaincy intern and one language missionary, Rutledge told directors.

With approval of the budget, the Home Mission Board has more than \$10 million cooperatively budgeted with state conventions in 1977, Rutledge said.

"About \$2.5 million will be cooperatively budgeted in the west, \$4.25 million in the north central and plains states, \$2 million each in the northeast and southwest,

and a little over \$1.5 million in the southeast," Rutledge said.

"By cooperatively budgeting with state conventions, the HMB is able to effect greater change by being involved in larger numbers of missionary personnel than if we continue to directly fund the work," he added.

The proposed budget provides for \$18,535,724 for the missions section. Among items included are \$2.3 million for associational missions; \$411,000 for chaplaincy; \$2.8 million for church loans, and \$11.8 million for missions ministries.

In the missions ministries division, CSM will receive \$2.3 million; church extension \$2.8 million; language missions, \$4.2 million; special missions ministries, \$783,000; interfaith witness, \$316,000; and cooperative ministries with National Baptists, \$748,000.

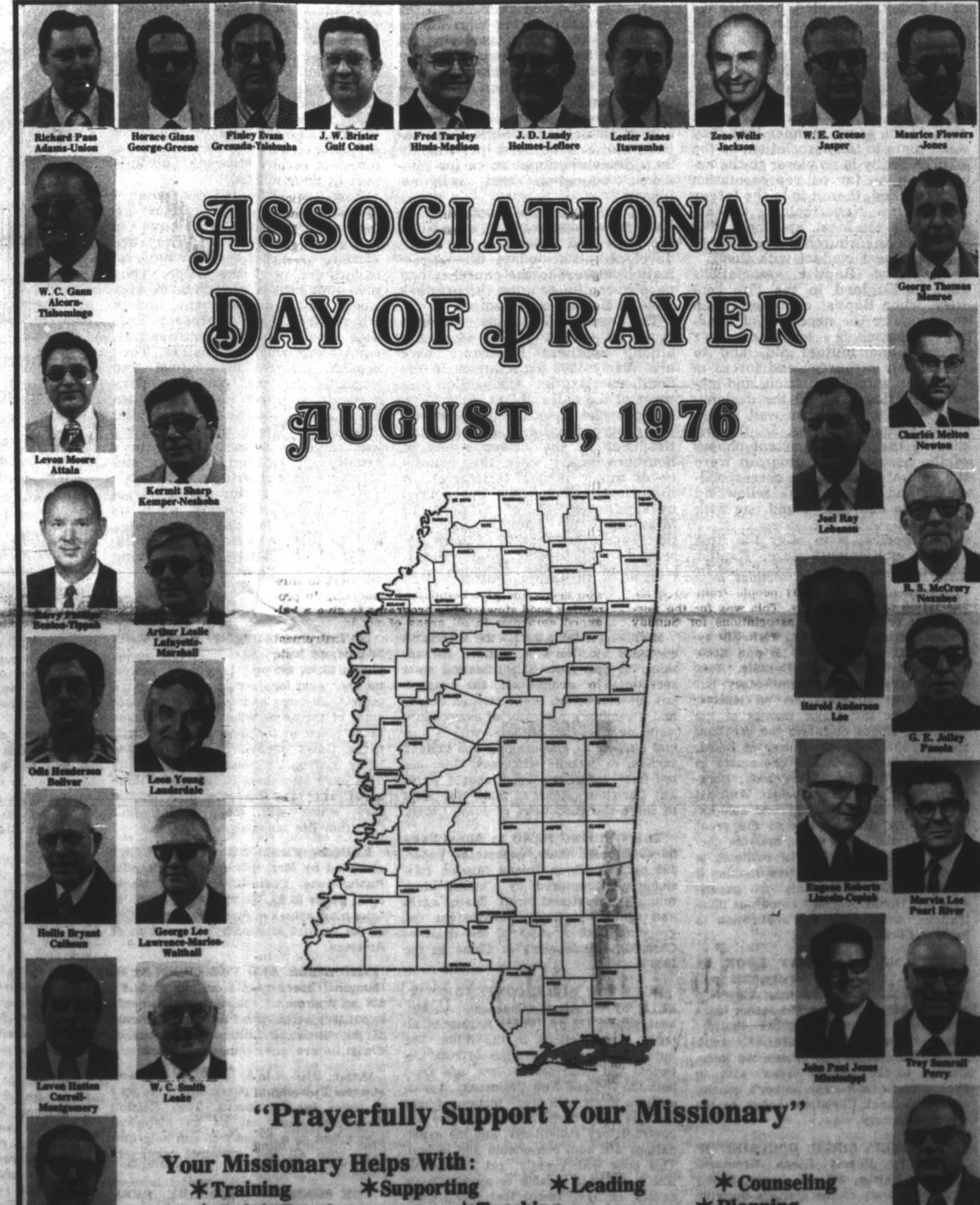
For other sections, \$401,574 will go for general administration, \$1,770,812 for evangelism; \$332,695 for planning, and \$3,156,818 for services.

Directors also allocated the \$11.5 million Annie Armstrong Easter Offering goal, with Bold Mission Thrust receiving heavy emphasis.

Some \$7.9 million was allocated to support of missionaries and field ministries; \$1.6 million for support of special projects, and \$1.6 million for the special BMT emphases.

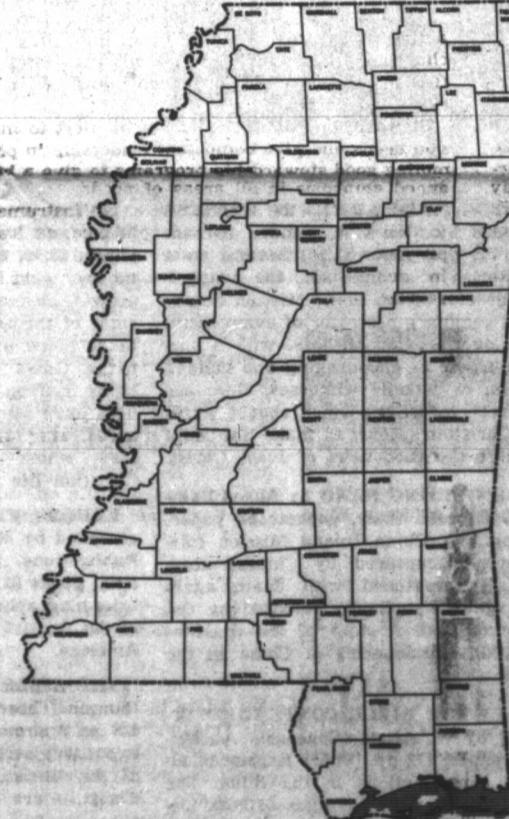
However, BMT emphases are woven into many of the board's program areas, and funds budgeted for on-going work will be used to enhance the special project.

Directors stipulated that all funds received above the \$11.5 million goal will go for the BMT emphasis.



ASSOCIATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER

AUGUST 1, 1976



"Prayerfully Support Your Missionary"

Your Missionary Helps With:

* Training * Supporting * Leading
* Pulpit Supply * Teaching * Counseling
* Planning



Cooperative Missions Department/A Ministry of the Cooperative Program

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

EDITORIAL

Associational Day Of Prayer

Next Sunday is Associational Day of Prayer in Mississippi. Churches are asked to recognize the observance, and to give at least some time during the services of the day to prayer for the association and its ministry. Even as we observe a day or week of prayer for foreign, home and state missions, so we are asked to remember the unit of mission work nearest to our churches, the district association.

The district association or association as it ordinarily is called, is the unit of Baptist organization that is, in a sense, closest to the churches. We used the words "in a sense," since this is true only because it is local, and the very first unit of Baptist cooperation. Actually, the churches send messengers to the state and national convention, in the same manner that they send them to the association, so the church really is no closer to the association as far as representation is concerned, than it is to the larger fellowships. Nevertheless, the associations are local, and more people from the churches are able to have a direct contact with them.

The first Baptist associations rose in England in the 17th century, when Baptist churches began to recognize the necessity of banding themselves together, for strength and mutual aid, and to unite their resources and forces in Christian witness, mission, and other ministries. By 1655 the designation "association" was well recognized among Baptists. In the beginning the most important phases of the associational program were the annual meeting, the correspondence, and the mutual fellowship which the churches found one with the other.

In America, soon after the first English settlements here, Baptist churches began to be established in

various colonies, the first in 1638 or 1639. The growth was slow, and by the year 1700 there were only 14 Baptist churches scattered throughout the land. However, five of these were in the vicinity of Philadelphia, and in the year 1707 they formed the first American Baptist association, the Philadelphia Association. It was not only the first, but also the most influential body of its kind in America at that time. As the years of the 18th century passed, several other associations were constituted, so that by the time of the American Revolution most of the Baptist churches in the land were cooperating with an association. E. C. Watson in his book, *The Baptist Association*, says, "Baptists in their associations were concerned in the beginning with a desire for fellowship, communication between scattered churches, and ministerial discipline. Associations came to be used increasingly as a denominational voice for missions, education and religious liberty."

The associations continued to have an important place, even after the state and national conventions developed. Still today, this organization, closest to the churches and people, continues to be the primary base of Baptist organization.

The association has changed much in recent years, especially among Southern Baptists. There are nearly 1200 associations in the Southern Baptist Convention. In most of the older states, as in Mississippi, the associations generally are geographically located in counties, but in the newer areas of Southern Baptist work, they usually cover much larger territories. A majority of them now are served by superintendents of missions. In Mississippi we have 76 associations, and more than 60 of them are served by an associational superintendent of missions, although in a

number of them it is on a dual-association basis.

The associational organization provides a way for churches to do together in the associational territory, what they could not do alone. New missions and churches are established; weak churches are strengthened; churches with problems or needs are aided; programs of training, enlargement, and enlistment, are provided; the Baptist witness is united and strengthened; and numerous other programs are fostered and goals accomplished.

The association is much more than an annual meeting of messengers from the churches with reports and fellowship. It is a uniting of Baptist forces and resources for a kingdom program. The organization deserves the support of every church. The stronger congregations can share their strength with others, and the weaker ones not only can share what they have, but also can receive strength and support in their witness.

Associational superintendents of missions are among the most effective missionaries we have in Southern Baptist life. They are close to the churches. They have an understanding of the fields. They give guidance to churches in missions, church development, and in other ways. They represent Baptists as leaders in communities, right along with the pastors. They provide a source of counsel and strength for the pastors. They serve as a direct liaison between the churches and the larger Baptist fellowships. Where there is strong leadership by the association, there usually will be found growing and effective Baptist witness.

As we come to this special Associational Mission Sunday, all of us need to pray for the associations, and for those who lead them. In doing that we shall be strengthening our whole program.

NEWEST BOOKS

THE ORIGIN OF ALL THINGS by Herschel H. Hobbs (Word, 159 pp., \$5.95) The subtitle is "Studies in Genesis." This is not a verse by verse commentary, but a series of 10 messages on Genesis, which cover the major themes of the book. Dr. Hobbs discusses the creation, the fall, the flood, the Tower of Babel, and then the four major characters in the remaining part of the book, Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph. With his usual thorough scholarship, and able exposition, Dr. Hobbs presents the great central truths of the book, and the doctrines related to them. The outlining is clear, and most is alliterative, making it easy to follow. Out of his rich experience Dr. Hobbs provides numerous illustrations, and makes apt application to modern Christian living.

THE UNIVERSE NEXT DOOR by James W. Sire (InterVarsity, 239 pp., paper, \$4.25) How does man view the world and the universe? The author looks at several views: Christian theism; Deism, Naturalism, Nihilism, Existentialism, Pantheism and others. An introduction to the various views, with an evaluation of them. The author's conclusion leads back Christian theism as the one satisfactory view.

THE VIRGIN BIRTH; DOCTRINE OF DEITY by Robert Glenn Gromacki (Thomas Nelson, 262 pp., paper, \$3.50.) A careful study of the glorious doctrine of the deity of Jesus Christ. The author says "The incarnation, the virgin birth, and the deity of Jesus Christ form an inseparable triad. They must all be accepted or denied to maintain logical and Scriptural consistency." This is a strong presentation of the doctrine of God coming to earth in human flesh, and a clear answer to denials of it. An outstanding book.

A FLOWER GROWS IN IRELAND by Ron Wilson (David C. Cook, paper, \$3.95, 144 pp.) Here is a sensitive and revealing look at the Irish Christian; his life and witness. Journalist Ron Wilson, in several trips to Ireland, found the story behind the story: "I went looking for rays of hope. And it didn't take long to find Christians who have risen above the conflict, who are trying to overcome the traditions of bitterness, who are chipping away at the wall and reaching through the cracks to touch the hands and hearts of men and women on the other side of Ireland."

12 SERMONS TO YOUNG PEOPLE AND 12 SERMONS ON THE SECOND COMING OF CHRIST by Charles H. Spurgeon (Baker, paper, \$1.95 each) Reprints of sermons by the eloquent Spurgeon.

ALIVE IN CHRIST by David A. Womack (Gospel Publishing, paper, \$1.25, 128 pp.) A helpful guide to the Christian life.

MOTIVATING LAYMEN TO WITNESS compiled by James A. Fonder (Broadman, 109 pp., paper \$1.95) Several state secretaries of evangelism, the evangelism director of the Home Mission Board, and a seminary professor of evangelism, write on Christian witness, with a special purpose of encouraging and guiding laymen to become witnesses. Here are ten fresh messages which should warm any Christian's heart to make him want to share the good news of Jesus Christ.

THE GUIDING HAND by Alfred Bosshardt (Harold Shaw, pocketbook paper, 196 pp.) A China Inland Mission missionary is captured by Chinese communists, threatened with death again and again, but finally released by the grace of God. A story of the trials of Christian missionaries in China in the 1930's.

DOES THE BIBLE CONTRADICT ITSELF? by W. Arndt (Concordia, pocketbook paper, 172 pp., \$2.50) Reprint of alleged contradictions in the Bible. The author deals with passages of both historical and doctrinal matters, and from both the Old and New Testament. Apparently he deals with every instance where charges have been made that there are contradictory statements, and his explanations are both reasonable and logical. This book will greatly aid individuals who have been unable to answer Bible critics, or have themselves found problematic texts.

TEACHING AS A PERFORMING ART by Leon M. Lessinger and Don Gillis (Crescendo, 146 pp., paper, \$4.95) The teacher an artist? These authors think so, and both of them stand high in the educational field. Here they present a new concept of teaching, that should be a challenge and a prod to any teacher. This book shows how to be a better, more effective teacher. It deals with the "artist" himself, his stage, his instrument, the use of media, the audience, the literature and other matters. This is a fresh approach but it should be an invaluable one.

WHAT THE BIBLE SAYS ABOUT ANGELS by A. C. Gaebelein (Baker, paper, \$1.25, 116 pp.) Are angels real? What does the Bible say about angels? Where do they live? Dr. Gaebelein gives clear-cut and Biblical answers to these and other questions.

MISSION TRENDS NO. 2 edited by Gerald H. Andersen and Thomas F. Stransky (Panlist Press, paper, 218 pp.) Twenty-two essays that probe the mandate and strategies of proclaiming the gospel in today's world — with statements from Bangkok, Lausanne, Rome, Bucharest, and Taize.

SHE'S GONE! by E. S. Caldwell (Gospel Publishing, paper, \$1.25, 122 pp.) The action-packed events surrounding the disappearance of a teenage girl.

LIVING THE ADVENTURE by Keith Miller and Bruce Larson (Word Books, paper, \$3.95, 251 pp.) Loneliness, power, money, sex, confession, change and growth, sickness and death — these are some of the areas where the real action takes place in the individual's struggle to be God's person. Keith Miller and Bruce Larson believe that Christianity does have something to say about these areas, and that there are directions to take which will make living the Christian life an adventure.

ECHOES FROM BEAUTIFUL FEET compiled by Mrs. Edwin Peters (Baptist Publications Committee, Little Rock, Ark., paper \$1.95, 168 pp.) A collection of brief biographies of men who were active in the Baptist Missionary Association of America.

THE BIBLE AND THE CROSS by G. Campbell Morgan (Baker, paper, \$1.95, 128 pp.) Some of the best of Morgan's expository sermons on the central theme of the Christian faith — the cross of Christ — are gathered in this book.

ONLY ONE LIFE by E. S. Caldwell (Gospel Publishing, paper, \$1.45, 128 pp.) A novel for teen-agers. Tom Ralston discovers Jesus, not as an historical figure, but as a friend who can help him cope with all the pressures teenagers must face.

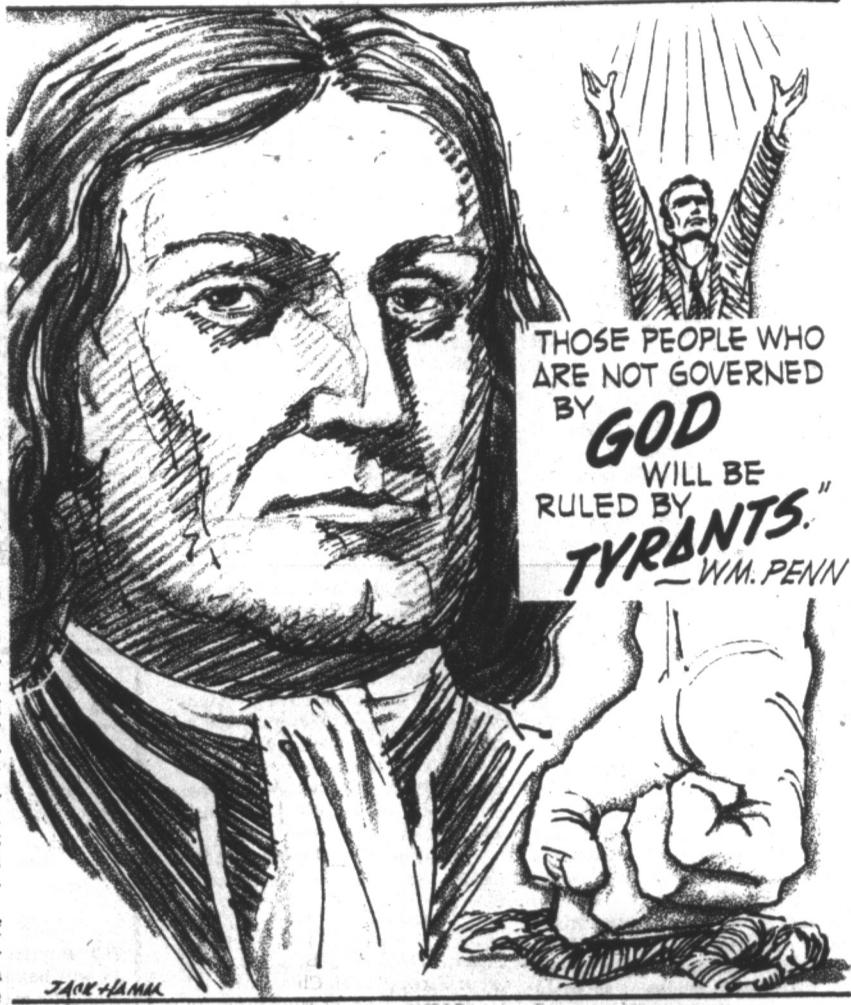
THE MINISTER'S LIBRARY, PERIODIC SUPPLEMENT NO. 1 by Cyril J. Barber (Baker, paper, \$2.95, 106 pp.) An up-dated list of suggested books for the minister's bookshelf.

THE INDIGENOUS CHURCH by Melvin L. Hodges (Gospel Publishing, \$2.00, paper, 152 pp.) A handbook on "how to grow young churches," in these changing times. The author is a professor in an Assemblies of God school, and a former missionary for Assemblies of God.

NOTHING IS IMPOSSIBLE WITH GOD by Kathryn Kuhlman (Fleming Revell, paper, \$1.75, 304 pp.) The story of twenty people, considered hopeless by medical science, who later returned, cured, to amaze their own doctors.

COMMENTING AND COMMENTARIES by C. H. Spurgeon (Banner of Truth, London, \$4.95, 224 pp.) Two lectures, a catalogue of Bible commentaries, and exposition by C. H. Spurgeon, to his sermons. It has been said that the catalogue "has been more valuable to some publishers than a board of investments, and the few ministers who have possessed the volume scarcely let it out of their sight." Spurgeon compiled the catalogue after a review of some three to four thousand volumes.

YOU'D BETTER BELIEVE IT! by Kenneth D. Barney (Gospel Publishing, paper, \$1.25, 127 pp.) A guide to basic Christian beliefs.



FAR-SIGHTED FOUNDING FATHER

THE BAPTIST FORUM

Southern Baptists And Abortion

Dear Mr. Editor:

I am so sorry that the latest Southern Baptist Convention did not take a stand against abortion. I realize that every issue could not be placed on the agenda and voted for one way or the other. But abortion should have had a high priority. My personal opinion is that abortion in most of the cases is murder. There may be some in which it is necessary.

I do not believe God was pleased when we Southern Baptists, as a group, did not take a stand against abortion when we had the opportunity. I believe we have gone too far in the matter of liberalism in the Southern Baptist Convention.

As to the number of fetuses that are aborted each year, I have heard figures as high as three million. I believe there is life there and God is not going to stand idly by and let us commit gross national sins such as this.

Perhaps there are people in the Convention who believe this is all right, in the matter of abortion. But in II Corinthians 6:17-18 God says, "Therefore come ye out from among them and be ye separate, saith the Lord, and touch not the unclean thing and I will receive you and will be a father unto you and you shall be my sons and daughters saith the Lord God Almighty." I am a Christian and know Jesus Christ as my Saviour and have been a Southern Baptist for many, many years, but I cannot condone nor support the thinking nor the actions of the convention in the abortion matter.

David Milam

P. O. Box 277

Heidelberg, MS 39439

Editor's Note: The SBC in Norfolk DID pass a resolution on abortion. That resolution recognized the problem; opposed the practice of "non-therapeutic" (not health reasons) abortion; reaffirmed "the biblical sacredness and dignity of all human life, including fetal life"; called on "Southern Baptists and all citizens to work to change those attitudes and conditions which encourage many people to turn to abortion as a means of birth control"; and rejected "any indiscriminate attitude toward abortion, as contrary to the Biblical view."

The convention did not say that the government should rule abortion out entirely (recognizing therapeutic reasons) but it did speak.

POPULATION AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS — The world is witnessing a vast transformation in the size and concentration of human settlements. In 1800 the population of all the world's cities was 25 million people — equal to 3 percent of the total world population. By 2000 one or more individual cities, perhaps Tokyo, New York or Mexico City, might be that large. Two forces of tremendous magnitude have produced what is today called "the human settlements problem": the explosion of world population and the massive exodus from rural areas into urban centers. This year between 65 and 70 million people, all requiring food, shelter and the other necessities of life, will be added to the present world population of 4 billion people. At the same time, some 25 million people will move from the countryside to towns or cities — most of them to national and provincial capitals. These 25 million additional city-dwellers will need extensive new services to provide food, water, sanitation, health services, education, public transportation and the other basics of urban life. Whatever can be done to reduce the growth of population will make that job much easier. (Population, April, 1976, No. 2)

POVERTY INCREASES — Over 33 million Americans, or 17.3 percent of the population, lived in poverty last year, according to the U. S. Census Bureau. This is a 36.6 percent increase over 1974. The Labor Department now sets the poverty line at \$3500 annual income for a family of four. (Bread Lines, July, 1976)

DISTILLING A MESSAGE FOR TV — U. S. whisky distillers, barred from radio and TV by the broadcast industry's advertising code, will be spending money on the airwaves for the first time this fall — but not to peddle their members' products. The Distilled Spirits Council, an industry group, plans to run public-service TV announcements in the major cities, beginning this month. The theme: responsible drinking. The spot will be "signed" by the distilling group and the National Council on Alcoholism. (Newsweek, July 12, 1976)

Free Books Sent Just For

Postage

Dear Editor:

I am giving three books free upon pickup or payment of postage and handling. I am closing LeRoi Publishers and offer the stock free to your readers and church libraries.

The first book is "MR. BAPTIST HOUR" by Baker. This is a study of the life and work of Herschel Hobbs on our Radio Hour. There are a few hardback ones which sold for \$4.95. These I will send to church libraries as long as the stock lasts. Otherwise it will be paperback which sold for \$2.95. The second book is my own, "THE WILL OF GOD" and "Are You Afraid to Die?" which sold for \$1.00 paperback. The other is Vol. 1

The Baptist Record

515 Mississippi Street
Jackson, Miss. 39201

Joe T. Odle Editor
Don McGregor Associate Editor
Anne McWilliams Editorial Associate
William H. Sellers Bus. Manager
Official Journal of the
MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST
CONVENTION BOARD

Earl Kelly Executive Secretary-Treasurer

The Baptist Building

Box 530, Jackson, Miss. 39205

Baptist Record Advisory Committee: J. B. Fowler, Jackson; Ferrell Cork, Aberdeen; Sid Harris, Hattiesburg; Hardy Denham, Newton.

Subscription \$1.00 a year payable in advance. Published weekly except week of July 4 and Christmas.

Second Class Postage paid at Jackson, Mississippi.

The Baptist Record is a member of the Southern Baptist Press Association and the Evangelical Press Association.

Revival Dates

Bethel (Yalobusha): July 25-30; H. V. Hardin, pastor of Rena Lara, evangelist; David Deal, minister of music, First Church, Water Valley, leading the music; services at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.

New Hope (Lafayette): August 1-6; Monday through Friday at 7:45 p.m.; Larry Tapp from Ocean Springs, evangelist; Sonny Smith, song leader; Lurie Tapp, pianist; J. W. Massie from Sardis, pastor.

Robin Hood (Rankin): Aug 1-6; regular services on Sunday morning with dinner on the ground, homecoming service Sunday afternoon at 1:30, Rev. Kenneth Harrison, speaker; service at 2:30 with Happy Life Singers, Memphis; week-day services at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Jim Everett, evangelist; J. P. Everett, pastor.

Weathersby (Simpson): August 1-6; homecoming service at 11 Sunday with dinner on the grounds; Caley Ray Nichols, pastor, Eastside, Magee, evangelist; night services at 7:30; Bob Yates, pastor; John Coleman, music director; Margaret Duckworth, pianist.

Oakdale Church (Rankin): Aug. 1-6; Dr. James L. Travis, chaplain, University Medical Center, Jackson, evangelist; Mike Hennington minister of music, McLaughlin Heights Church, Pearl, music evangelist; Sunday services 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; week-day 7:30 p.m.; Rev. H. B. Nail, pastor.

Union (Franklin): August 1-6; Mel Craft, Tylertown, evangelist; Lonnie Williams, Roxie, singer; John C. Graves, Jr., pastor.

Mashulaville (Noxubee): August 1-6; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 8 p.m.; weekday at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Curtis Reese, pastor of Yorkanaokany Church near Kosciusko, evangelist; Gerald McCleskey, minister of music and youth at Calvary, Starkville, music evangelist; John A. Williams, pastor.

Bunker Hill Church, Columbia: August 1-6; Dr. C. H. Melton, evangelist; Dr. David Grimsley, music director; services at 10 and 7:30; David Perry, pastor.

Central Church, Brookhaven: August 1-6; Sunday at regular time; weekly at 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; Donnie Bond, pastor of Conrad Church, Conrad, Montana, evangelist; Randy Grim, music director at East Haven Church, Brookhaven, guest musician; H. Glen Schilling, pastor.

Galilee First Church, Glaston: August 1-6; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 1 p.m. with dinner at the church; Monday through Friday 7 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; John E. Watts, pastor, Ferris Hill Church, Milton, Florida, evangelist; Dr. Victor L. Walsh, dentist from McComb, guest musician; J. Millard Purl, pastor.

Baxtersville Church (Lamar): Aug. 1-6; Sunday services at regular time; Mon.-Fri. at 7:30 p.m.; James N. Gill, evangelist; Bobby Ready, music director; Bob Goolsby, pastor.

Rocky Point (Leake): August 1-6; Richard Carroway, pastor, preaching; Herman Milner of First Church, Carthage, guest musician; homecoming on Sunday, August 1, with morning service at 10:30, lunch on the grounds, and singing in the afternoon; Policeman's Quartet of Jackson, guest singers for homecoming.

Smyrna: Aug. 1-6; dinner on the ground Sunday and afternoon service at 1:30 p.m.; services at 10 a.m. and 7 p.m. Rev. Bill Jennings of New Orleans, La., evangelist.

Rock Bluff To Have Open House, At Homecoming

Open House at the new church pastorum will be a highlight of homecoming day at Rock Bluff Church, Smith County, (Rankin Association) on August 1. Paul Roberts, a former pastor of the church, will speak at the 10:30 a.m. service (there will be no Sunday School that day.)

Dinner on the grounds will be followed by an afternoon singing beginning at 1:30. Rev. William Caten is pastor.

Revival Results

NEW HOPE (Leake) — June 27, July 2 — Three professions of faith and two rededications; Leon Young, director of missions, Lauderdale Association, evangelist; David Pickel, song leader; Jimmy Young, pastor.

Concord (Smith): youth revival; August 6-8; at 7:30 p.m. Friday and Saturday; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 5 p.m.; John Stanley, Harrisville, sophomore at MC, evangelist; A. D. Nieman, pastor.

Dry Creek Church, Preston: July 25-30; Robert Scott, Seligman Missouri, evangelist; J. F. H. a good, pastor; services at 7:30 p.m.

Antioch, Lexington: August 2-8; services during week 7:30 p.m.; Sunday at 11 and 1:30 p.m., with dinner at the church; Clayton Bath, pastor of First, Tchula, evangelist; Marvin Childress, Morgan City, singer; John Sproles, pastor.

Clarkson (Webster): August 1-6; services at 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. (except Sunday night, which will be at 6); David Kendall, pastor of Trinity, Vicksville, evangelist; Jeff Gilder, pastor.

Memorial (Perry): August 1-6; Brad Ramsey of Waco, Texas, evangelist; The Brad Ramsey Family, guest musicians; Don Strickland, pastor; services Mon. - Fri. at 7:30 p.m.; August 1, homecoming day with services at 11 a.m. and 2 p.m. and dinner on the ground.

Bethany (Jeff-Davis) August 15-20; services at 7:30 p.m. Monday-Friday; Dr. Welby Bozeman, pastor of First Church Chalmotte, La., evangelist; Danny McDonald, directing the music; W. L. Ainsworth, pastor.

Braxton: August 9-15; Dan Watts, pastor at Goodwater Church, Magee, evangelist; Phil Lang, minister of music at Braxton, guest musician; G. P. Buffington, pastor; services during week at 7:30 p.m.; regular services Sunday.

Antioch, Old Pearl community (Simpson): August 1-6; Sunday at 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri. at 7:30 p.m.; Billy Guest, pastor of Corinth Church, Maggee, evangelist; George Lewis, pastor.

Meadville (Franklin): August 1-6; Jimmy Simeon, pastor, Centreville Church, evangelist; David Prevost, minister of music and youth; Meadville, special music; Mrs. Elsie Burris, organist; Mrs. Marian Farmer, pianist; services Monday-Friday, 7:30 p.m.; Sunday, August 1 at 11 a.m., to be followed by dinner-on-the-ground fellowship and afternoon singing; Ken Jordan, pastor.

Bethlehem (Simpson): August 1-6; Robert E. Jones, pastor of Washington Church, Washington, evangelist; Laicie Bullock, song leader; Lisa Brown, organist; Mrs. Jackie McRaney, pianist; Jerry S. McRaney, pastor; August 1, homecoming with lunch at the church and services at 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Mon.-Fri. at 7:30 p.m.

Bellevue, Hattiesburg (Lamar): August 1-6; Dr. Jerry Nixon, Petal, evangelist; Tom Larrimore, Jackson, music evangelist; James L. Yates, pastor; Sunday at 11 a.m. and 6:30 p.m.; Mon-Friday at 7:30 p.m.

Center Hill (Monroe): August 1-6; Dr. James Travis, Professor of Bible and Religion at Blue Mountain College, evangelist; services 7:30 p.m.; H. L. Redd, pastor; Marvin Taylor, music director.

Concord Church, (Choctaw): August 8-13; Dr. J. Roy McComb, pastor, FBC, Pearl, evangelist; Barry Worrell, Ackerman, music director; week day services — 10:30 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; B. B. McGee, pastor; homecoming August 8.

Good Hope (Winston): August 1-6; Onan Gardener, pastor, South Louisville church, evangelist; Everett Solite, minister of music, First, Belzoni, music evangelist; services Sunday 11 a.m., 7:30 p.m.; week-day 10 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; W. A. Troutman, pastor.

First, Ripley To Be Host For Lay Renewal Weekend

First Baptist Church, Ripley will be in a Lay Renewal Weekend, August 6-8. Approximately 35 adults and young people of Baptist churches from North Mississippi will be visiting in the area of the members of the church Friday night, Saturday and Sunday morning.

A schedule of 42 hours of activities have been planned. The pastor, Harris Counce, Jr., has challenged his people to get involved in this opportunity of spiritual renewal.

Sidney Ellis of Greenville will be co-ordinator.



Baptists And Religious Liberty

BAPTISM TAKES PLACE AT NIGHT—Chesterfield, Va., Aug. 15, 1773—Under cover of darkness, Rane Chastain of Buckingham baptized nine converts in the James River. The candidates for baptism were converted under the preaching of John Weatherford, a Baptist minister. Weatherford was at that time confined to the Chesterfield County Jail. Following the baptismal service, authorities ordered Chastain to leave Chesterfield County or face imprisonment. (Used with permission of the Historical Commission, S. B. C.)

First Church, Pascagoula To Celebrate Centennial

(Picture on page one)

First Baptist Church of Pascagoula will begin the church's centennial celebration on Homecoming Sunday, August 8. The church was organized in 1877 when J. B. Hamberlin after coming to the coast for his health, founded the church as the Scranton (now Pascagoula) Baptist Church and served as its first pastor. There were originally seven members of the church which in 1900 reported 50 enrolled in Sunday School. In 1976, the membership is 2436.

Immediately following the morning worship service on Homecoming Sunday, there will be "Dinner on the Grounds." All types of seafood dishes will be served to the present membership and all former members of the church attending.

Those serving as pastors of the

church through the 100 years of First Baptist Church's existence were: Hamberlin, Dr. N. O. Patterson, Rev. Day, Dr. Leroy Green (now retired but serving as a member of the church), Dr. Charles L. McKay, Dr. T. J. Delaugher, Dr. Eugene Skelton and the present pastor, Clark McMurray.

Ministers of music for the church through the years have been: C. Lamar Alexander, Joe Santo, George Wadlington, Lloyd Peham, L. Graham Smith, and Marc Beaver, the current minister of music.

Ministers of education have been: Mary Alice Ditsworth, Billy Hudgens, Maurice Hodges and Bob Gray, the present minister of education.

All current and former members as well as friends of the church are invited to attend.

Rohrman, Larrimore To Lead Sharkey-Issaquena Area Revival



An area-wide revival will be

held in the Sharkey - Issaquena Academy football stadium, August 8-13, sponsored by Sharkey-Issaquena Baptist Association.

Dr. Larry Rohrman, pastor, First Baptist Church, Greenwood, and former pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson, will be evangelist. Tom Larrimore of Jackson, will be the music evangelist. Services nightly will begin at 7:30 p.m.

Injured Man's Faith In God Sets Example In Losing Fight

(NOTE: The following story was printed in the Avalanche-Journal, Lubbock, Texas, January 25, 1976. Bill Merritt, the young man who is the subject of the story, was the nephew of Dewey Merritt, Mississippi missionary to Nigeria.)

By JAY HARRIS

Avalanche-Journal Editor

Lubbock, Texas

For eight days and nights, William Carl Merritt Jr. lived a miracle.

For much of his 26 years, he lived a life dedicated to doing something worthwhile for others.

And he died the same way, setting an example, although he probably never thought of it that way.

Bill Merritt, ex-Marine drill sergeant . . . college educated . . . married, two young daughters, one of whom died last fall at the age of 21 months . . . employed as a brakeman for the Santa Fe Railroad.

Bill said goodbye to his wife, Karen, and left his home at 703 Chicago Ave. about 11 p.m. Jan. 13 for another stint on the "graveyard shift," helping switch freight cars in the Lubbock Santa Fe yards.

He had been at work just short of two hours when train

For reasons not yet fully known, as he stepped between two sections of the train on which he was working he was caught in the massive steel couplings which link the cars.

Much of his lower body and his left leg was crushed. He was trapped in the coupling.

The pain was indescribable. But he remained conscious. He prayed

someone would notice his plight, but the train already was in motion. The cars moved some distance down the track before stopping.

At this point young Merritt told his father, William C. Sr., a 23-year veteran with the Santa Fe and now division real estate manager with officers in Amarillo, that as the train stopped, "I felt the slack and knew I had to get out . . ."

Summoning some sort of superhuman effort, he literally pried himself free. As he did so, his head and arms fell across one of the rails.

Fearing the train would start again and that he would be decapitated, he managed to push himself between the rails. He told his father he then tossed his lantern beside the track, hoping someone would notice.

It was about this time that the other crewmen detected something amiss and investigated.

One of the first on the scene was George W. Lyons of 2207 25th St., the engine foreman and a longtime Santa Fe employee.

"As my lantern picked him out, I could see that his leg had been injured," Lyons said. "I ran to the locomotive cab and radioed for an ambulance, then switched the engine and came back down a siding to where Bill lay under cars on the adjacent track . . ."

Lyons says he crawled back between the rails in an effort to comfort Merritt, lying beside him.

"He told me he was going to die," Lyons related later. "But, I told him that although he had a badly injured leg, he was going to make it . . ."

Lyons says that Merritt com-

plained of his stomach. Lyons says he checked Merritt's abdomen and then his back and realized he had indeed suffered grievous injuries.

During the few minutes Lyons had taken to run to the locomotive and return, Merritt had reached into a pocket and taken out a small Bible, given to him by his parents on his 18th birthday, shortly before he enlisted in the Marines for a four-year stint.

In it he scrawled two brief notes. One was a personal "last message" to his wife, Karen, the other, on the opposite page, a brief "I Love Jesus."

With the Bible in his hand, he turned to Lyons and told him: "I haven't had much opportunity to talk to you, but I would like to witness to you for Jesus Christ."

"He then told me he loved me and he loved Jesus," Lyons related. "He was completely calm and rational. Only when we were moving him onto the stretcher and into the ambulance did he give in to his pain . . . When my time comes, I hope I can face it like he did . . ."

Young Merritt's trial was just beginning.

The ambulance dispatched to the scene at 1:31 a.m. became stuck in a mud hole on the way to the hospital and Merritt arrived at West Texas Hospital at 2:14.

Because of his precarious condition, doctors felt they would be restricted in giving him certain pain killing drugs. Still conscious, Merritt told them to ask his wife to come and stand beside him and sing and pray, and you can do whatever you have to do . . ."

Karen had been notified and

was en route to the emergency room.

Friday, sitting in an office at Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church, where services were held Saturday for her husband, she said softly: "Then I sang hymns, recited scriptures and we prayed . . ."

This continued for an hour as doctors worked frantically to save the young man's life.

Young Merritt's condition was a week which astounded the team of doctors at West Texas Hospital who attended him. He came out of the initial operation and treatment in good shape, and by the weekend seemed "to make a turn toward possible recovery . . . one of the doctors said.

Tuesday morning, complications arose and late that afternoon an

(Continued On Page 7)

Thursday, July 29, 1976

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5

Bomber Pilot Dies

By J. B. Fowler, Jr. Pastor

First, McComb

Mitsuo Fuchida is dead! For a minute the news stunned me. I had just come home from our Sunday morning worship service and my wife told me that I was wanted on the phone. Charles Jackson, one of the young men of our church who was sitting behind the microphone at Radio Station WAFP, was on the line: "Pastor," he said, "I knew that you would like to know this: Mitsuo Fuchida died today in Tokyo. He was 73 years old. The notice just came over the wire."

My mind raced back about 15 years. Fuchida and I were sitting in a restaurant in the West Central Texas town where I was pastor. He was to speak to our church and we were enjoying a few minutes together. Although we were born in different countries and there was a disparity in our ages, still Fuchida and I were brothers. Both of us were Christians and ministers of the Gospel. I was an American and Fuchida was a Japanese, but still we were brothers.

Mitsuo Fuchida was piloting the lead bomber when the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor. As he approached his target, he fingered the Buddhist prayer beads which hung on the instrument panel of his bomber. He gave an exultant scream, and with his right hand pressed down on the throttle of his bomber. Following immediately on his tail were 182 planes. He singled out a battleship and with another cry of exertion he let his bombs fall. Picking up his microphone and pressing the button he screamed, "Tora, Tora, Tora," to the aircraft carriers 200 miles away. The coded message which meant, "Tiger, Tiger, Tiger," was a signal to the Japanese high command that the attack on the United



John Bewley, left, and Jerry White, right, will direct the 1977 European cycling tour.

Broadmoor Plans 1977 Cycling Tour

Again in 1977, the Broadmoor Baptist Church Recreation Department (Jackson) will sponsor a European cycling tour. The 20-day tour, July 11-29, 1977, will take young people through Luxembourg, France, Germany, Holland, and Belgium.

Those who will be directing the tour are John Bewley and Jerry and Janice White. John Bewley, director of activities at Broadmoor Church for twelve years, will be making his third European cycling tour. Besides being a cyclist, he is also a magician, ventriloquist, musician, speaker, writer, athlete, and inventor. A graduate of Kansas State College and New Orleans Seminary, he is married to the former Barbara Gudgen and is the father of three children.

Jerry White is headmaster and principal of Woodland Hills Academy, Jackson. A graduate of Mississippi College, with master's degree in guidance and counseling, he has worked twelve years with young people, both in church work and as a school teacher and counselor. He has been actively involved in cycling in Jackson and has previously made three cycling tours of Europe. The 1977 tour will be his fourth. He is married to the former Janice Farrish and is the father of two children. Mrs. White will also be going on this cycle tour.

Bewley states, "The planned time set aside for the young people to become actively involved in

Christian witnessing will be one of the most important parts of the tour. Our church while on the tour will have a floor of grass, and ceiling of sky, and walls of green trees and shrubs. There will be a time of singing, fellowship, entertainment, sharing and witnessing around the campfire each evening with people of other countries.

The four spiritual law booklets will be passed out in four languages, English, Dutch, German, and French. The cycling tour is designed to help young people in four areas of life: physically, mentally, socially, and spiritually. The staff is dedicated to the task of reaching, through cycling, young people for the Saviour in these four areas. We are really foreign missionaries for the summer."

Bicycle paths in Europe make cycling much easier than in the States. Vans will follow the cyclists. The vans will carry first aid supplies, personal belongings, bicycle repair equipment, food, tents, cots, etc. The cyclists will need only to carry camera and rain gear.

The group will travel at a leisurely pace and in an economical manner. An average cycling day will be 35-45 miles. Many times the group will board a train, bus, or van and ride into a large city. A 5½-hour ride from Koblenz down the Rhine River to Köln on a four-decker cruiser will be a highlight of the trip.

"As you pedal on your 10 speed bike through the beautiful countryside," Mr. Bewley says, "you

may stop to picnic in a meadow overlooking a chateau or castle region, chat with a friendly wanderer, bargain with a local merchant for handicrafts and gifts, visit the home of a hospitable innkeeper, watch a colorful carnival or see the magnificent churches and cathedrals in almost every village and province."

The educational value of the experience is inestimable. The group will visit many museums and places of historic interest, such as medieval fortresses, Roman ruins, the largest Gothic edifice in the world, castles, Van Gogh's home, the house of Rembrandt, Anne Frank's home, Lion Hill at Waterloo, the Ardennes Mountains, and the international meeting place for Scouts.

The program is designed for both young men and women looking for fun and adventure. The tour will offer a balance between city and countryside, education and sightseeing, relaxation and physical fitness, and group and individual interest. It is for those who can travel simply, master the elements, and expect the unexpected.

A trip of this nature attracts young people from many places. Groups from Tulsa, Okla., 1st, Holly Springs, and First Columbus, Ga., have expressed an interest in going with the Broadmoor group.

Anyone desiring more detailed information concerning the cycling tour need only to contact John Bewley, 787 East Northside Drive, Broadmoor Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss. 39206.

Names In The News



Jonathan H. Waddell, Ed. D., Clinical Chaplain in the Regional Mental Health Division of Central State Hospital, has been notified of his inclusion in the 1976-77 Edition of the *Dictionary of International Biography*. A native of Mississippi, Dr. Waddell resides in Milledgeville, Georgia.

Roger Dunnam accepted the call of God to the gospel ministry and preached his first sermon on July 4, 1976. He was licensed to preach on that date, at Ingalls Avenue Church, Pascagoula, has been a member of Ingalls Avenue for more than two years and has been active in the entire church program. He will enter Mobile Baptist College for the fall semester. Available for pulpit supply or the pastorate, he may be reached at 2512 E. Jackson Street, Pascagoula, Mississippi, 39567.

Gage Hynum was ordained July 11 to the Gospel Ministry. He was licensed to preach by Pattison Church, and will serve Pattison as associate pastor and music director. Dr. Hollis B. Todd is pastor of the church.

Mr. and Mrs. J. Glenn Morris, missionaries to Thailand, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: Box 832, Bangkok, Thailand). He is native of Atlanta, Ga., and she is the former Polly Love of Hattiesburg, Miss.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Miller, missionaries to Nigeria, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: Altamont Rd., Rte. 9, Greenville, S. C. 29609). He was born in Charlotte, N. C., and lived in Biloxi, Miss., Greenville, S. C., and Decatur, Ga., while growing up.

Mr. and Mrs. Paul H. Miller, missionaries to Nigeria, have arrived in the States for furlough (address: Altamont Rd., Rte. 9, Greenville, S. C. 29609). He was born in Charlotte, N. C., and lived in Biloxi, Miss., Greenville, S. C., and Decatur, Ga., while growing up.

Elbert Dawson "Beaver" Charpie, III, has accepted the call as minister of music and youth of Cliff Temple Church, Adams Association, Natchez. Mr. Charpie is a second year music major at William Carey College. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. E. D. Charpie, II, of Pearl River La. Bryant Haslip is the pastor.

Baptists of the Bahamas have been honored by having one of their number chosen on a select commission of the Baptist World Alliance. Rev. Charles C. Smith has been asked to serve on the Study Commission on Church Life, a commission of fourteen members chosen from Baptist groups throughout the world to serve until 1980. Smith is pastor of Zion Baptist Church, Nassau.

Bobby Ready has accepted the call as minister of music at Baxterville Church (Lamar). Mr. Ready is a sophomore at William Carey College. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Bill Ready of Bogalusa, La. He plans to continue his studies in music. Bob Goolsby is the Baxterville pastor.

Lowrey Creek Church has presented Jay Slaughter with his youth ministry license. The pastor, John L. Riles (right), is shown presenting the license. Jay is now minister of youth at Lowrey Creek. The license was signed by Mrs. Angel Black, church clerk, and Pastor Riles. Jay, son of Mrs. Clifton E. Slaughter and the late Mr. Slaughter of Rt. 2 Ellisville, is attending Jones County Junior College where he is an active member of the Baptist Student Union.

20,000 DEGREES FAHRENHEIT and not a drop of water

ESTUS PIRKLE presents

The BURNING HELL

Tortured Lost Souls
Burning Forever

PRODUCTION BY
THE ORMOND
ORGANIZATION

SEE
HUNDREDS OF
BIBLICAL
WONDERS
filmed
in the Holyland

ADAPTED FOR THE SCREEN
AND DIRECTED BY RON ORMOND

DR. R. G. LEE DR. JACK HYLES DR. BOB GRAY

OVER 2,000,000 PEOPLE HAVE SEEN THE FILM AND OVER 120,000 PROFESSIONS OF FAITH HAVE BEEN MADE AT ITS SHOWING. Many churches have shown it as many as five times in six months and had as great results on the fifth showing as on the first. This film is available for showing in your church. Listed below are the names of men who would be glad to come show this film in your church on a free will offering basis.

Rev. Arzone Burns, Rt. 4 Box 244-A, Forest, Mississippi, 39074, phone: 601-460-4567.

Rev. Johnny Cowart, Rt. 1 Box 50, Myrtle, Mississippi, 38650, phone: 988-2252 (home) 534-8463 (work).

Mr. Billy K. Johnson, Rt. 1 Box 100, Myrtle, Mississippi, 38650, phone: 988-2252 (home) 534-8463 (work).

Mr. Jeral Roberts, Rt. 2, New Albany, Mississippi, 38652, phone: 534-6922 (home) 534-6810 (work).

Rev. Sonny Simpson, 738 Flag Chapel Drive, Jackson, Mississippi, 39209, phone: 922-8006 (church) 922-3611 (home).

Rev. C. R. Williams, 110 Francis Street, Hattiesburg, Mississippi, 39401, phone: 583-0154.

"THE BURNING HELL IS, WITHOUT A DOUBT, THE GREATEST EVANGELISTIC FILM EVER MADE" according to Rev. Rastus Salter, pastor, Second Baptist Church, Warner Robbins, Georgia who showed it to 2000 people and had 135 professions of faith.

"It is excellent and without reservation I can recommend it to any group," J. Harold Smith, Evangelist, Writer and Radio Preacher.

"I saw and heard the film — 'THE BURNING HELL.' It is the most effective in presentation of the awful reality of a burning hell as the Bible presents it. This film should bring joy and gratitude to the saved since the saved will never go to hell. It should awaken the unsaved to repentance and to the need to have Christ for Saviour so they can escape Hell," R. G. Lee, Former President of the Southern Baptist Convention.

"Recently we had the privilege of having a film 'THE BURNING HELL' at our church. I have been well acquainted with the ministry of Estus Pirkle in the past and fully expected this film to be very effective. However, I still underestimated the impact of the film and have been greatly pleased because of the results from showing it. We advertised through bulletin inserts and posters provided by the organization and also announced it on our TV program. On the night of the showing we had in excess of 1,000 people including young people and men and women of all ages. As the film progresses I have never seen anything quite like it on the subject of Hell. At the close of the film 20 people came forward in their profession of faith," Rev. Randy Hardeman, Glen Haven Baptist Church, Decatur, Georgia.

"In my opinion the film, 'THE BURNING HELL' is the most powerful religious film ever produced. Every pastor owes it to his people to show them this film that produces so graphically the hideous, horrible, suffering, and torments of eternal hell," Dr. Dan Greer, Washington Avenue Baptist Church, Greenville, South Carolina.

If you prefer to show this film yourself, you can get it for a one time showing for a rental fee of \$60 from:

The Estus Pirkle Evangelistic Assoc., Inc.

P. O. Box 80

Myrtle, Mississippi 38650

PHONE: 988-2789

988-2219

If you need advertising materials you can get the "Pastor's Packet" for \$8.00. This includes bulletin inserts, 10 posters, newspaper ads, etc. This can be ordered from the Estus Pirkle Evangelistic Association.

Evangelistic Outreach

By Wm. J. Fallis
Acts 8:4-19; 10:1-48; 19:8-20

Luther's Reformation began in 1517 and had a dramatic effect on the Roman Catholic Church. But within the next century other state churches were established in various countries, and Christendom was ready for another outbreak of the Spirit. Attempting to recover

the Bible's emphasis on personal religion, two dissatisfied German Lutheran pastors started a movement that became the Moravian Brethren. John and Charles Wesley made converts out of nominal Anglicans in England, and Jonathan Edwards was the best-known preacher in the Great Awakening in America. All these emphasized the need for Bible study and promoted evangelistic and missionary work. This is a significant aspect of "The Mission of the Church."

The Lesson Explained
ROMAN CENTURION: A SEEKER (vv. 30-33)

This whole chapter is devoted to the remarkable story of Peter, the leader of the apostles, and a God-fearing Roman centurion. The

present passage picks up the story after Peter has arrived in Caesarea. Peter has asked why he was summoned and Cornelius tells of his own vision. Now he and his friends are ready to hear what God had commanded Peter to say.

Cornelius was no ordinary Gentile; he was an officer in the Roman army. But more important, man army. But more important, verse 2 probably means that he had a warm interest in the Jewish religion but was not a proselyte; he proved himself by giving to the needy and praying to God. He was a seeker open to God's guidance to new truth.

THE GOD FOR ALL PEOPLE (vv. 34-38)

Although Peter does not here recount his rooftop vision, he does affirm the great new truth it had taught him: "I now see how true it is that God has no favourites" (NEB). What an amazing admission for a Jew of that era to make! Neither priest nor Pharisee would have done it. Only a man whose life had been touched by Christ could recognize the truth and have the courage to say it. God has followers in all nations.

Then Peter began his "sermon." God's message came to the Jews in the gospel preaching of Jesus. After the ministry of John the

Baptist, Jesus and his message become well-known throughout Judea. It was obvious that God had poured out his Spirit and power on Jesus as he "went about doing good" — as the messenger of the God who accepts all men, no matter what their race.

JEWISH FISHERMAN: A WITNESS (vv. 39-44)

Why would a Jewish fisherman be talking with a Woman centurion? He was one of the witnesses whom Jesus had commissioned to tell, not only of his miracles and teachings, but also of his death and resurrection. All people did not see the risen Christ, but the ones chosen by God "ate and drank with him after God raised him from the dead" (TEV). They were told to preach the gospel and declared that God had appointed Jesus to be the Judge of the living and the dead.

Whil the sermon may have been longer, verse 43 must have been its climax because something wonderful happened at that point. The Holy Spirit came upon the Gentiles as they listened and the evidence was similar to that of the Pentecost. Peter had witnessed, and God had done the rest. He showed beyond any doubt, that the message of Christ was for all people.



Attempting to recover the Bible's emphasis on personal religion, two dissatisfied German Lutheran pastors started a movement that became the Moravian Brethren. John and Charles Wesley made converts out of nominal Anglicans in England, and Jonathan Edwards was the best-known preacher in the Great Awakening in America. All these emphasized the need for Bible study and promoted evangelistic and missionary work. This is a significant aspect of "The Mission of the Church."

The Lesson Explained
ROMAN CENTURION: A SEEKER (vv. 30-33)

This whole chapter is devoted to the remarkable story of Peter, the leader of the apostles, and a God-fearing Roman centurion. The

Sunday School Lesson: Life And Work For August 8

A Faithless People: A Faithful God

By Bill Duncan
Exodus 32:1-34:9

What do you do with a stubborn child, or employer? Then what would you do with a stubborn nation of people? One day a father who had done everything possible to help his son was asked, "Dad, why do you keep coming after me? Why don't you give up and just let me rot?"

The father replied: "You are my son. Your mother and I love you and as long as there is breath in our bodies, we will stand by you."

This study is revealing the nature of God and his dealing with mankind. When God's holiness is violated, then his wrath is necessary to punish the sinner. Yet, his grace is ever available to mankind. It matters not how sinful or unworthy you may be, God stands ready to forgive.

The Exodus passage tells of the rebellion and apostasy that took place while Moses was away on the mountain receiving the Ten Commandments. It is disturbing when the lay people are rebellious. But Aaron, the priestly leader, went along with their plot and prepared a god for the people to worship. The image created was a golden bull associated with Canaanite Baalism. The bull was



a symbol of vitality to represent the Lord. The molten calf may have been a reversion back to former gods or may have been an attempt to secure an image of God. It may have had different significance for different people. But it was a mistake.

When Aaron "saw" the image, he recognized the seriousness of his mistake. Some translations will say that he was afraid. He realized the sin of not taking a firm stand. But he was not willing to speak against the people. He went along with their demands and even prepared an altar. He preached a sermon and called for a feast to the Lord. "His action" was a commentary on the constant temptation to accommodate the gospel to the culture. If Aaron tried to redeem himself, he failed.

The people sat down "to eat and rose up to play." Their rebellion against God was shown by their improper personal and moral conduct associated with their worship. The idea of "to play" suggests sexual orgies which accompanied fertility rites, especially in Canaanite Baalism.

The reaction of God to the rebellion and sinful life of faithlessness is hard to understand. God's first response was to call the Israelites — your people, the people you brought up. It seems that God wanted to disown them. Then He called the people stiff-necked or stubborn. The Israelites were like a donkey that refused to turn its neck in the direction of the Master.

God's purpose was to destroy the people. He was very hot and angry toward the people who had entered into covenant with him. God offered to raise up a new nation of people from Moses' seed.

The mediator, Moses, called up

Rev. W. B. Byers, Jr., Pastor, Dies

Rev. Ward B. Byers, Jr., of 1028 Buckley Drive, Jackson, pastor of the Deer Creek Baptist Church, Rolling Fork, died early Thursday morning July 21, at Marks, La. A service was held at 11 a.m. Sunday July 25, from the Deer Creek Church.

Funeral services were held July 26 from Calvary Church, with Dr. Joe H. Tuten, officiating.

Survivors include his wife, the former Georgia Long; one daughter, Mrs. Claude (Joyce) Persons of Jackson; a grandson, Ricky Persons; a granddaughter, Beth Persons; one brother, Alfred N. Myers of Orlando, Fla.

Byers was born at Arlington, Va., formerly lived in Florida, Texas and moved to Mississippi in 1960. He attended Mississippi College, New Orleans Seminary and served in the U. S. Navy Reserve and the Air Force.

He held pastorates at Carpenter

on God because of the very nature of his grace to repent of his decision or thought. How can God repent for he has never sinned? For God to repent suggests that he changes his mind or intention in accord with his righteous purposes and takes action commensurate with his nature of love and forgiveness. So in this case, God was moved to compassion for his people.

When the faithlessness had been acknowledged and repentance of sin shown, God renewed the covenant with the people. The Sinai covenant was the action of God's grace and forgiveness. He called for religious purity. They were not to have marriage relationship with the pagan people, and their "religious shrines were put to the ban." The reason being the Lord is a jealous God. He demands exclusive loyalty. Most of the mate-

rial in Exodus gives instruction about the worship life of Israel.

It really pays to pray: The minis-

try of intercessory prayer is powerful praying. Moses stood in the gap and put his life on the line. If God would not forgive the people, then he wanted to die. Ultimately, the proof of prayer is that it works. God wants his people to pray for one another and the lost. Moses is a good example of intercessory prayer. He went to the Lord with a great burden for the people of Israel. He reminded God of what people would say if he destroyed them. The prayer of Moses for the faithless people was rewarded by the faithfulness of God.

It is time that we become intercessors for America. If we could have a half million people praying everyday for America and its sins, there would be a difference in our country.

Prayer Lift For Pastors: August 1-7

Pearl River

August 1

Dick Hill, Faith Memorial
J. A. Cother, Fords Creek
J. R. Boutwell Grace Memorial
Kenneth Rhodes, Juniper Grove
Harry Barnes, New Palestine

August 2

John Kitchens, New Henleyfield
Dennis Allen, Olive Branch
John Greater, Ozona
Chester Estes, Oak Hill
Bill Duncan, Picayune, First

August 3

Dale Patterson, Roseland Park
Glynn Adams, Spring Hill
G. A. McCoy, Union
James Hickman, Unity
James Beck, West Union

August 4

Robert Barnes, Poplarville, First
Larry Powell, West Poplarville

Perry

Dan Hembree, Arlington
Frank Hendry, Besumont, First
W. M. Evans, Bethel

August 5

John Henry, Brewer
R. O. Hinton, Calvary
James Pierce, East Side
W. F. Holder, Good Hope
B. A. Conway, Indian Springs

August 6

Don Strickland, Memorial
L. C. Newell, New Augusta, First
Fred Trexler, Richton, First
Herman McAlpin, Runnelstown

Pike

Wayne Williams, Bala Chitto
August 7

Donald Tharp, Bluff Springs
Jimmy Houston, Bogus Chitto
Robert Smith, Calvary

August 8

John Holden, East McComb
Curtis Williams, Central

other major operation was necessary to arrest an infection. Wednesday, his condition worsened and the struggle ended at 7 a.m. Thursday.

"You would have to say that his survival, as long as it was, was nothing short of a miracle," the head of the team of physicians said. "That, and this young man's will to live, and the faith of his family . . . It was simply fantastic . . ."

Young Merritt, who required some 40 units of blood, given by donors from throughout the city and area, talked throughout his ordeal with his family. Toward the last, he told of "hearing choirs singing . . ."

His interest in music was deep rooted. He and his wife often sang together, and he had been working with a youth group at the Pleasant Ridge Baptist Church. He had hoped to acquire an electric piano and amplifiers to use in their work.

The family asked that any memorials be given to the church for that purpose.

It was a gesture Bill Merritt would have understood.

Singing praises in the House of His Lord had become the theme of his life.

C. O. ALLRED FINE CHURCH FURNISHINGS

- Pews
- Pulpit furniture
- Foam rubber cushions
- P. O. BOX 235
GROVE HILL, ALABAMA
Phone (205) 275-3481

THE TEN COMMANDMENTS (King James Version) BUMPER STICKERS ALL 10 for \$6.00, plus \$1.00 handling. Send money with order to:
C. O. ALLRED
P. O. Box 235
Grove Hill, Alabama 36046
Allow 5 to 6 weeks for delivery.

CHURCH BUSES

MISSISSIPPI
Bus Sales, Inc.
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

Thursday, July 28, 1976

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 7

Beyond the Ironing Board

Wilde Fancher

Recently I "ordered off after" an eight translation New Testament. Reading prefaces and introductions to each has been rather interesting, finding there the explanations of why the translation was made.

In the introduction to his, J. B. Phillips shares three tests he feels are necessary for a good translation. First, it must not sound like a translation. Second, the translator must not make obstruction of his own personality into the work. Third, the translation should produce in the reader's heart and mind the same effect that a reader of the original felt.

Thus it seems that a translator undertakes a task complicated not only by words and feeling, but also by impossibility. Consequently, Phillips disclaims that any translator ever reaches all of these three ideals, but he suggests that they must be the translator's guiding principles.

Reckon we could apply these principles of written translation to living translation? We're translators of Christ to the world. They know Him through us.

First, should our faith seem uncontrived? Should it be natural, easy, smooth, real so that it comes through as natural, easy, smooth, real?

Second, should we keep self out by allowing Christ to live through us? Should our center of purpose be Christ, not self?

Third, should a person be able to feel in our presence the same love, concern, care, and security we feel in the presence of Christ?



Cato Dedicates New Sanctuary

As their bicentennial event, members of Cato Church (Rankin) dedicated their new sanctuary and its furnishings. Dr. Foy Rogers was the guest speaker. Members of the Building and Finance Committee were Morris Goodman (Builder), James Martin, Lurleen Shotts, Barbara Meadows, Don Patrick, C. A. Hall, Bobby Frazier, Rupert Martin, Roy Ainsworth, Kade Winstead, and Ralph Martin. The pastor is Ricky Gray.

Barnett Called

To N. Winona

Dr. Eugene Barnett has resigned the pastorate of Harmony Church, Walnut, to accept the pastorate of North Winona Church, Winona, Mississippi.

The Barnetts' were in their fifth year of service at Harmony.

Dr. Barnett is a member of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, the writing team for R.F.D. Church Music, Advisory Board of Directors, First Mississippi Bank of Commerce, Walnut and Booneville. The Barnetts have four children, Richard, Pamela, Donald and Stephanie.

The Barnetts are native Mississippians. Their parents are Mrs. Clyde Schumert of Shannon and Mr. and Mrs. E. T. Barnett of Tupelo.

BUS SEATS

34 reclining seats—from former Greyhound—will deliver—See at Mockingbird Greenhouse—Crystal Springs, 1-892-4500.

DELUXE HOLY LAND TOUR, Nov. 18-27. Only \$999 roundtrip from New York, including all expenses, 747 TWA flights (no charters), fine hotels, all meals, everything. Also 2 days choice of Rome or Athens. Escorted from Jackson by Clyde Bryan. For Brochure—Bryan Tours, Inc., P. O. Box 5221, Jackson, Ms. 39216

Published by EXPOSITION PRESS
Hicksville, N.Y. 11801
Available now at your Baptist Bookstore.

CHURCH PEW CUSHIONS AND CARPETING

Write Harold Weeks Rt. 4 Box 208
Florence, Ms., or call 939-5826 or
T. W. Helms 373-3668

NEW AND USED BUSES

Complete Stock from 12 to 84 Passengers

BUS SUPPLY CO., INC.

Hwy. 98 E.—P.O. Box 582
McCOMB, MS 39064

Phones: Office (601) 684-2300
Home (601) 684-5874 or 684-6876

AN INSPIRING GIFT THAT WILL LAST A LIFETIME

SPIRITUAL NUGGETS:

A DEVOTIONAL BOOK BY Ryburn T. Stancill

Gleaned from the author's popular newspaper columns in The Wausau Democrat (W.I.) and Terry Headlight (Miss.), these "nuggets" of inspiration and guidance were designed to be read again and again. They are beautiful gems that hold a promise of daily delight throughout a lifetime.

Published by EXPOSITION PRESS
Hicksville, N.Y. 11801
Available now at your Baptist Bookstore.

Dept. J10, P.O. Box 672, Muscatine, Iowa 52701 • (319) 263-6642
Write for FREE information kit.

Mississippi Newsbriefs

Just For The Record



Rev. Charlie Weaver and Pastor Frank Lay display Ingomar's liberty bell." Mr. Weaver, 87, preached at Ingomar on July 4.

Ingomar Church Celebrates 70th Anniversary

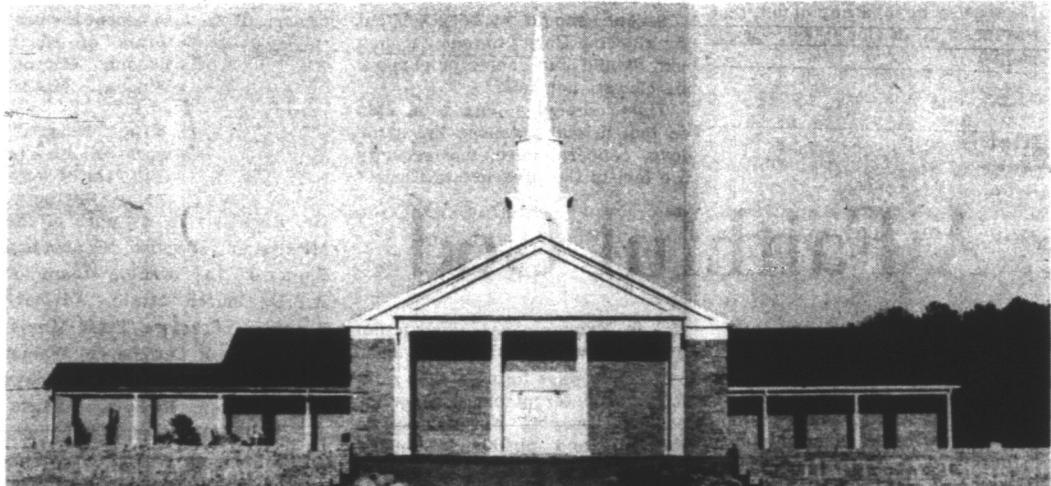
Ingomar Church of Union County Association jointly celebrated the American Bicentennial and its 70th Anniversary on July 4. Dinner was served at the church. At 1 p.m. the "liberty" bell was rung to call the worshippers back into the sanctuary. The Children's Choir under the leadership of Mrs. Margaret Lay, presented a patriotic skit. Old hymns were sung.

The highlight of the day was a message preached by the only surviving charter member of Ingomar, Charlie C. Weaver, 87, of Noxapater. Mr. Weaver was born in Pontotoc County, July 17, 1889. He was ordained by Ingomar Church 50 years ago. In 1920, he served as associational missionary for Tishomingo, Alcorn and Prentiss counties. He also served as pastor of a number of churches in Mississippi. Although he is retired, he continues to be active in his church.

Rev. W. Frank Lay is the pastor at Ingomar.

Linn Homecoming

Linn Church will have Homecoming Day on Sunday, August 1. Lunch will be served as the church. Revival starts on the same date and will continue through August 6. Charles Wesley is the new pastor.



Valley Park To Dedicate New Building

The Valley Park Church will dedicate their new church building on Sunday, August 1. The pastor, Rev. Leon Ivey, will bring the message. Open House will be held from 2 to 4 p.m. on that day. The church is conducting a revival this week, preceding the dedication. Rev. Paul Brooks, pastor

of Woodlawn, Vicksburg is evangelist. Jimmy Newmann, native of Valley Park now residing in Maben, is singer. The church conducted a baptismal service on the opening of the new church, when six were baptized. Two more were baptized on the 18th and one is awaiting baptism.

Two Years At CLARKE COLLEGE

The Mississippi Baptist Junior College

May Turn Out To Be
The Most Significant Period Of Your Life

HERE YOU WILL FIND:

- ★ Academic work fully accredited
- ★ Career preparation to achieve your highest goals
- ★ Friendship you will value through the years
- ★ Spiritual influence enriching all of life
- ★ Various types of financial aid, if needed
- ★ Lowest tuition of any Southern Baptist College

For information write:

Office of Admissions
Clarke College
Box 440
Newton, MS 39345

Telephone:
(601) 683-2061



Mashulaville

Enrolls 77

Through "Action"

Mashulaville Church, Macon kicked off its ACTION program June 20 with an enrollment of 61. The first Sunday attendance was June 27 with 61 present. There were 40 in attendance on July 4 and 52 on July 11.

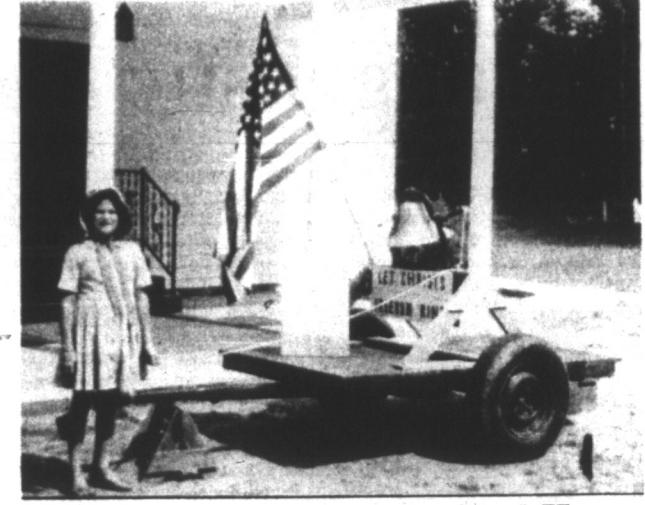
Eight teams were organized. One lady and her teenage daughter enrolled 24. One team enrolled 0. But after three days of working, all teams had enrolled a total of 77 with all teams enrolling some.

The enrollment went from 53 to 130. "It is working," said Rev. John A. Williams, pastor. "We plan for a good follow-up."

Linn Church Welcomes Pastor

Linn Church, Doddsdale, honored their new pastor, Charles Westley, with a reception on Sunday night, July 18.

Mr. Wesley moved to Linn from the pastorate of First Church, Lockport, Louisiana, with his wife, Judy, and two daughters, Judy, 5, and Stephanie, three weeks. He is a graduate of Delta State and New Orleans Seminary.



Plantation Bell Rings At Good Hope

Good Hope Church, Hickory (Newton County) observed Bicentennial services Sunday July 4th. A sixteen-inch old-fashioned plantation bell was mounted on a flatbed trailer and placed in front of the church and rung at intervals during the day.

The young lady in the picture wearing the old time bonnet is Jula Little, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. C. E. Little. She is the youngest member of the church; her church ancestors go back for six generations. She was the official bell ringer for the day.

The pastor, Rev. E. L. Clark, brought a morning message on the subject, "What Made America Great and What Will Keep It Great in the Future." The observance of the Lord's Supper concluded the morning service. The noon meal was served in the recently built fellowship hall, followed by an afternoon service of

songs and readings with pledges of allegiance to the national and Christian flags and to the Bible.

The church clerk, Mrs. Hubert Williams, gave a brief review of church history, beginning with the organizing of the church on Sept. 29th, 1855 with nine charter members. The services closed with the congregational hymn, "Best be the Tie That Binds."

Deaf Worker Honored For 52 Years' Service

Mrs. Louis Beard, interpreter to the deaf at Forest Cove Baptist Church, Humble, Tex., was honored by A. V. Washburn and participants at a Sunday School Leadership Conference at Glorieta for her 52 years of ministry to deaf persons.

Bolivar Churches Gather For Bicentennial Rally

On July 4 the churches of the Bolivar Association gathered in First Church, Cleveland for a Bicentennial Rally. The event began with a picnic type supper. Other activities of the evening included a patriotic art exhibition by boys and girls ages 6-11. There was also recognition given those who came in costume. A brief history of the Gunnison church, the oldest church in the Association organized in 1836, was given by O. C. Cockerham. Dr. Jack Gunn

gave a historical address on the "Contributions of Baptists to The Nation 1776-1976." The program concluded with the historical Musical drama, "The Fabric Of Freedom." The musical was under the direction of Milton Burd and Richard Strahan. Mrs. G. R. Harden is the Associational Music Director. Dr. Henry Jacob served as Master of Ceremonies. Dr. Macklyn Hubbell was chairman of the Bicentennial Committee.

and expanded continuously, since that date.

According to Superintendent Paul N. Nunnery, former residents planning to attend the 1976 Reunion need to write to him at The Baptist Children's Village, Box 1130, Jackson, Mississippi, 38213, and confirm the number of persons in each party, in order that adequate luncheon arrangements may be completed. Alumni have also been urged to make personal contact with other former residents whose correct names and addresses may not be available on current mailing lists.

Children's Village Alumni Reunion To Be August 14

Alumni of The Baptist Children's Village, the Mississippi Baptist child care agency, have been reminded of their Bi-Annual reunion which convenes on the Jackson Campus of The Village on Flag Chapel Drive near West Northside Drive on August 14. In a recent announcement, David "Cotton" Foster, president of the alumni reunion group, outlined plans for the meeting which include registration and informal visiting from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m.; a program and business session from 10 a.m. to 12 noon; and luncheon served by The Village from 12 noon to 1:30 p.m. Those in attendance are encouraged to remain after 1:30 p.m. for further informal fellowship and visiting.

The announcement emphasized that all former residents, whether as children enrolled for care or as staff, of The Baptist Children's Village or Mississippi Baptist Orphanage, are eligible for membership in the Alumni Reunion Group and urged, with their families to attend the 1976 meeting.

The Children's Village, which now operates its principal campus installation at the Flag Chapel Drive address in Jackson, along with a branch, "country-life" campus on the Farrow Manor property near Bett, in Tate County, as well as a Satellite Home in New Albany and a state-wide

Devotional

Bartimaeus Calls

By Roy Myers, Pastor, Mt. Zion, Independence

Mk. 10:46-52

What is it like to be blind? We who have our sight do not know the feeling of going through life without seeing the beauty of God's work. Bartimaeus was a man that had missed all the beautiful sights that God had made because he was blind. He was a social outcast and had to beg for a living. One day he heard of a man called Jesus coming his way and he cried out to Him and things began to happen. Notice four things about Bartimaeus' call.

First, We notice he called on the right person. It is important that we call on the right person. I am sure he had called on his parents, friends and even the religious leaders of that day but they could not help him.

Jesus made this great statement about himself, "I am the way, the truth and the life" (John 14:6).

We can see that Jesus is the right person to call on. Second, We notice that he called at the right time. People may try to mislead us just as they did Bartimaeus. They did not want this blind man to bother Jesus. Yet Jesus came into this world to help people in need.

Jesus was on His way to Jerusalem where he would be betrayed and crucified. This was Bartimaeus last chance to call out to Jesus. Jesus is never too busy to hear the earnest cry of a sinner. God's Spirit will not always strive with men, so we must respond to the Holy Spirit's leadership.

Third, We notice that he called for the right thing. In verses 47 and 48 we see him crying out for mercy. It is strange that he didn't ask for his eyesight first. Mercy is the most important need in any life. Without God's mercy we would not be able to know anything about the Christian life. The publican asked for mercy and Jesus said that he went down to his house justified rather than the Pharisee.

After asking for mercy, he asked for his sight. Jesus responded to this request as we read in verse 52, "and immediately he received his sight." Think, the first thing that Bartimaeus saw was the blessed face of the Saviour.

Fourth, we notice that he followed the right person. Bartimaeus was free to follow whomever he wanted to. Man has this free choice. Many have failed to follow the Saviour even after He has done great things for them, but not Bartimaeus for the scripture says he "followed Jesus in the way." His life was changed and he had a new sense of direction that came from God.

This experience can be yours today if you will only call out to Jesus. Have you called out to Jesus? Are you following the right person, Jesus Christ? Call out to Jesus and he will hear you and things will happen in your life like it did in Bartimaeus'.

Off The Record

Why Are Fire Trucks Red?
Do you know why fire trucks are red? Well, fire trucks have four wheels and eight men, and four and eight are twelve. There are twelve inches in a foot. A ruler: Queen Elizabeth is a ruler. And Queen Elizabeth is the largest ship on the Seven Seas. Seas have fish. Fish have fins. The Finns fought the Russians. The Russians are red. Fire trucks are always rushin'. Therefore, fire trucks are always red, unless they are white!

—The Messenger, Great Falls